

Dr. Albert DeMers: Founder of DeMers Family vision group passed away October 20th 2008.

Obituary:

Dr. Albert DeMers and Mrs. Vicky DeMers met and married in French Canada in the late 1940s. In life during 61 years of marriage, they were virtually inseparable. And, so it was also in death when, tragically, they both died after an automobile accident in California, their second home, while surrounded by all four of their loving children and other family members.

The story of Dr. Albert DeMers and Mrs. Vicky is one of a true "Renaissance Couple" who both had an incredible passion for life and lived it to its fullest potential.

Born in French Canada, Dr. DeMers spent his youth there. After marrying the love of his life, he and Vicky made their way to sunny California. There, he attended UCLA and USC and earned his Doctor of Optometry degree with Honors. Vicki supported her husband and, while caring for their first child, a daughter, she worked as a hostess for such upscale restaurants as The Brown Derby in Hollywood.

Upon his graduation, they moved their young family to the 'small town' of Sparks, Nevada in order to set up a much needed Optometry practice and raise a family in a rural setting. They opened their first optometry office on the original 'B' Street in downtown Sparks in 1957. Vicki manned the front desk and greeted new patients while Dr. DeMers grew the practice with his high level of expertise and dedication to serving all patients and their needs...even those who could not afford to pay. He was a true, dedicated physician who would see a patient anytime, anywhere and even travelled once a month to serve the union members' vision needs in the town of Empire, Nevada, north of Pyramid Lake.

Dr. Albert and Mrs. Vicky's warm, caring personalities soon led them to community involvement and public service. Dr. DeMers was elected to the Sparks City Council in the 1960s where he championed the causes of the Democratic Party and the working peoples' needs. His many accomplishments include membership on the Democratic Party Central Committee, Chairman of the Nevada State Hospital, Director of Parks and Recreation, member of the Washoe Planning Commission, President of the Sparks Chamber of Commerce, Director of Animal Welfare League, President of Nevada Association for Mentally Retarded Children, Chairman of Sparks Music Festival, Toastmasters, lifelong Rotarian, and service on many Nevada State Legislative committees.

Mrs. Vicky DeMers stood side by side with her husband, helped with service on many of the organizations' boards, and was voted repeatedly "Sparks Mother of the Year."

Also born in French Canada, Mrs. Vicky was a wife and a life-time partner of Dr. Albert who contributed equally in all they did and achieved. Vicky would single-

handedly host parties for Democratic fundraisers, the Scrabble Clubs of which Albert was an accomplished and world-renowned member who won many tournaments as recently as last month, and many other charitable organizations serving more than 75 people gourmet dishes such as Lobster Newburg. When not on a world tour or sporting event, Albert and Vicky shared their time between their beloved Nevada and Southern California. They were avid world travelers, sports enthusiasts, bibliophiles, art aficionados, gourmands, and in their retirement they still managed to serve on community-oriented boards.

Dr. Albert and Mrs. Vicky virtually had two dual careers which included not only Optometry but also real estate development. They developed many real estate properties including the Pyramid Funeral Home in Sparks, Nevada, private residences, a child day care center and many apartment complexes. Their business motto was "A Good Place to Live." Albert and Vicky made sure each and every resident was always content and always had units set aside for affordable housing for the less privileged. Even after retiring from the Optometry practice in Sparks, they both continued to work full-time in the family real estate business.

Albert and Vicky were very happily married for 61 years and raised their four loving children in Sparks. Their legacy continues to this day through The DeMers Family Vision Group in Sparks which continues to offer the community outstanding eye care by Dr. Scott, their grandson, and Dr. Leslie DeMers, wife of Dr. Scott. Their son, Glen DeMers, himself an Optician, lives with his wife and family in Mississippi; their daughter, Judy DeMers Howard, resides with her husband, Kyle, in West Virginia; their daughter, Karen DeMers Baer, resides with her husband, Eric, and their child in California and Arizona; and, their daughter, Sheryl DeMers, resides with her family in the Sparks area.

Dr. Albert DeMers and Mrs. Vicky DeMers are now departed; however, they will never be forgotten by those who knew them. They will always be remembered as two people who truly cared for their fellow human beings and shared many joyous times with all.

Respecting the wishes of both Albert and Vicky, a memorial service will not be held and in lieu of flowers, monetary donations may be made to a charity of your choice in their honor.

Dr. Albert and Vicky DeMers enjoyed living and sharing their lives to the fullest. Their commitment to one another and to their world influenced their family and many other Nevadans. Both Dr. Albert and Vicky DeMers helped effectuate change which positively touched the everyday lives of Nevadans. Albert and Vicky wish for everyone to continue with their lives and to live life to its fullest. Their final wish was to express their gratitude to their family and to all of Nevada for helping to provide both them and their family with a wonderful, wonderful life!