**OREGON ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS  
CONGRESS OF THE MEMBERS  
76th ANNUAL MEETING  
April 11th, 2024  
Condolence Resolution # 3**

**Introduced by:** Oregon Academy

**Subject:** **Resolution of Condolence for Fred Matthies**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Matthies passed away peacefully on November 16, 2022 surrounded by loved ones,

**WHEREAS**, Dr.Matthies, like to point out that he was born in the Year of the Rabbit – August 29, 1927- and that luck had smiled on him all his life. Evidence shows that he may have been right,

**WHEREAS**, he was adopted from Holy Cross Hospital in Spokane, Washington by Silas and Myrtle Matthies, a prosperous couple from the area,

**WHEREAS**, in 1931 despite the country’s severe economic woes, the family moved to Ogden, Utah where Dr. Matthies spent his childhood playing baseball, hunting and getting into mischief with his brother,

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Matthies graduated from Ogden High School in 1945 after WWII had ended before serving in the Navy,

**WHEREAS**, he attended Reed College, graduating in 1949 and received his MD at the University of Chicago, in 1953. The sudden passing of his father led him back to Ogden, where he joined the practice of Frank Bartlett and his son, Jay Bartlett. Dr. Matthies always said he was very lucky to start his career with a mentor as wise as Frank Bartlett, who emphasized the importance of humanity in medicine.

**WHEREAS**, after his first marriage to Claire Shaw didn’t work out, he luckily met Susan Arentz a few years later in Salt Lake City. They wed in June of 1969, just in time to watch the lunar landing. A year later they had a son, aptly named Silas, while he was completing his residency in Pediatrics at Stanford,

**WHEREAS**, on August 29th 1972, Susan gave birth to their second son Carl, who was lucky enough to share his father’s birthday,

**WHEREAS**, the bulk of Dr. Matthies’ career was spent training residents at the Family Health Center, a clinic serving lower income residents in Carson, California. The clinic was often under threat of closure because his bosses at UCLA saw lucrative specialization, not general practice and primary care, as the future of medicine. Through it all, Dr. Matthies would say how lucky he was to be able to treat the sick and to work with dedicated colleagues committed to the same goal, rewards which far exceeded any financial compensation and more than made up for the slings and arrows from powerful administrators,

**WHEREAS**, ultimately his vision of preventative healthcare and the concept of a “medical home” prevailed, and The Harbor-UCLA Family Health Center is thriving,

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Matthies witnessed two full solar eclipses, an appearance of Halley’s Comet, and a transit of Venus. He hit a hole in one. He saw the Berlin Wall rise and fall, and later became good friends with a fellow astronomy buff from former East Germany. He met his biological uncle and aunt along with some of his great grandchildren.

**WHEREAS**, he knew both great joy and success and terrible sorrow and adversity. Through it all he kept his bawdy sense of humor, and his optimism about the power of science to save our planet. NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE

**RESOLVED**, this resolution of condolence be placed before the AAFP Congress of Delegates and; BE IT FURTHER

**RESOLVED**, this this resolution be conveyed to his wife of 53 years, his brother, three sons and two daughters, nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.