



Gene Aron, July 21, 2018

Upon hearing of Gene Aron's death, many camp friends posted condolences and remembrances on the Kinderland 60s email list. This came from Judee Rosenbaum:

"I haven't seen him in many many years, but my memories of him are filled with warmth and light. He was open-hearted; a kind and good person -- a real mentsh -- and I remember him also as very sweet. (Adults sometimes grow out of sweetness -- the last time I saw him, he had not.) We've lost so many good people in the past few years; it's hard.

Eugene Aron, M.D. was a noted Doctor, Family Man, Musician, and Mountaineer Eugene Aron passed away peacefully at home on July 21, 2018, after a long fight against pancreatic cancer. His family was at his side. A compassionate husband, father, brother, son, and physician, he put his soul into everything he did. Born in South Bend, Indiana to Henry and Sylvia Aron, Gene's early childhood was spent moving from city to city as his parents worked as labor organizers and crusaders for socialism. He and his brother Jeff ultimately spent their childhoods in the Brownsville neighborhood of Brooklyn, NY. Gene was a gifted classical pianist, graduating from the prestigious High School of Performing Arts in Manhattan. He continued to play and improve his technique throughout his life. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Gene spent his young adulthood in New York City, working odd jobs as a motorcycle messenger, zookeeper, cab driver, and later as a nurse practitioner in East Harlem. A lifelong mountaineer and rock climber, his strength and fearlessness were hallmarks of his character. He met his wife of 41 years, Lauren, an educator, while the two were working as counselors at **Camp Kinderland** when they were 25. It was love at first sight. The couple lived in Peru and Bolivia during their first year of marriage, staying with Maryknoll missionaries doing health work and social services. It was during this time that Gene decided to become a doctor. Returning to the states, he completed medical school at the University of Cincinnati and an OB/Gyn residency in Philadelphia, where his son Jake was born. The young family relocated to the Boston area where they had their daughter Eve. Over the next 29 years, Dr. Aron worked at Newton-Wellesley Hospital, where he delivered over 5,000 babies, saved lives, and served as associate chair of the medical staff. Gene was known for his wonderful sense of humor and an immense breadth of knowledge, ranging from Beethoven to dairy farming. He was a voracious reader and fan of British mysteries. He loved to travel, crossing the globe and returning to Peru later in life with Lauren to do further medical outreach. Above everything, Gene was devoted to his family and especially his children, whom he loved dearly. Gene retired upon receiving his diagnosis, spending his final three years with Lauren in Charlestown, surrounded by friends. He enjoyed sailing in the harbor and playing piano as often as he could. He was deeply touched by the immense outreach from former colleagues, friends, and especially his patients. The hundreds of cards gave him strength, and to receive the same care from those he had served meant the world to him. Against all odds, he survived for 32 months, meeting every challenge with the bravery and dignity that defined his entire life. He is forever loved and will be deeply

missed. *(A funeral service was held on Sunday, July 29, 2018 at 12 Noon at Stanetsky Memorial Chapel, 1668 Beacon St., BROOKLINE, MA. In lieu of flowers, the family requested that contributions be made to Newton-Wellesley Hospital to establish the Eugene Aron, M.D. Lectureship in Obstetrics and Gynecology c/o NWH Development Office, 2014 Washington St. Newton, MA 02462 or online at <https://giving.nwh.org/donate>.)*