



RICHARD W. GRIESENBECK

December 22, 1930 ~ March 24, 2026

Richard W. Griesenbeck, 95, passed away peacefully on March 24, 2026 in his Sedona home. A memorial will be held at Wayside Bible Chapel on Saturday, April 25, at 10:30 a.m.

Born in Schwelm, Germany on December 22, 1930, to Wilhelm and Helen Griesenbeck, Richard immigrated to the United States in the late 1940s after surviving the hardships of World War II. He attended one year of high school in Leonia, NJ before pursuing higher education at Knox College and Duke University. Dr. Griesenbeck earned his medical degree from the University of Iowa in 1958, followed by a residency in Albany, New York, and a surgical residency in Staten Island, New York.

Dr. Griesenbeck dedicated his early career to the United States Indian Health Service in Utah and Arizona, which nurtured a lifelong love of the southwest and native American art and culture. In 1965, he established a private practice in Sedona, where he was known for his cradle-to-grave care of several generations of local families. His black doctor's bag accompanied him on many a late night or weekend house call. Toward the end of his career, he joined Sedona Healthcare, where he served for several years before retiring in 1998.

Dr. Griesenbeck was an accomplished musician who played the viola with the Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra for over 20 years and served on the symphony board. He also played with several chamber ensembles in the Verde Valley. After retiring from the symphony, he continued his music making with the Verde Valley Voices. An outdoor enthusiast who enjoyed hunting, fishing, and hiking, Dr. Griesenbeck joined the Sedona Westerners on many hikes and outings. He also enjoyed sharing friendship and exchanging life stories with fellow members of the Mavericks men's club.

Dr. Griesenbeck was a committed member of Wayside Bible Chapel throughout his years in Sedona, and he especially enjoyed attending men's Bible study and "Jesus in the House" musical gatherings.

He is survived by his wife, Jean; children Bruce (Pia), Donna (Chris), and Max; and grandchildren Alice, Riley, Emily, and Elliot. He was preceded in death by his eldest son, Ralph. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra or the Sedona Community Center.