

Ross
Tel



11/7/15
HSB

JAMES W. CHERRY
June 28, 1921 - October 23, 2015

Jim Cherry was born and raised in the small town of Newport, Arkansas. He attended the University of Arkansas School of Medicine supported by a grant from the Kellogg Foundation and by working throughout his medical school years. Upon his graduation he came to Hawaii as World War II ended in 1945 to serve his internship at Queens Hospital. He became the first surgical resident at Queens. Following this three year training he joined the Straub Clinic.

He fell in love with Hawaii and lived here for the rest of his life except for one year of post-doctoral specialized surgical training at the Lahey Clinic in Boston, and later serving two years in the U.S. Army as chief of surgery at the Irwin Army Hospital. He specialized in gastro-intestinal surgery at the Straub Clinic and Hospital until his retirement in 1982.

A man with many interests he raised orchids from soon after his arrival in 1945 until his recent death. In the 1960s he and eleven friends who also loved deep sea fishing designed and built a 28 foot fiberglass fishing boat, one for each person. Known as "the banana patch" boats because they were built in a leased, heavy equipment shed in a banana patch outside of Kaneohe, they are still seen in Hawaiian waters. The boat mold was sold to a commercial company in Seattle which continued to manufacture them. As an accomplished scuba diver Jim was a member of the California Academy of Sciences Steinhart Divers, participating in fish collection trips in the Pacific. Live fish were sent to the Steinhart Aquarium in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco for public exhibition. Salt water aquariums were also set up in the old Straub Clinic entry area and in his office and home. He enjoyed golf-- in Hawaii as well as playing on five continents--North America, Europe, Africa, Australia, and Asia. Joining his wife Julia's love of dogs they shared their home for almost fifty years with many beloved German Shorthaired Pointers.

Dr. Cherry is survived by his wife, Julia Frohlich Cherry, five children--Andrea, Christina Puopolo, Ingrid, Lance, Nina-- nine grandchildren, and one great grandson.

A service for the family was held.