**2021 EVENT TO HONOR MEMORY OF DEWEY MEYER**

**Kites, Prizes, food at Sept. 25 Rotary kite festival**

The Grinnell Rotary Club will honor the memory of Rev. Dr. Duane Arthur "Dewey" Meyer at the fourth annual "Kites Over Grinnell" festival to be held on Sept. 25, from 10a.m to 4p.m. in Ahrens Park on Penrose. Kites of all sizes, shapes and colors will fill the skies, with a free picnic lunch sponsored by the Rotary Club, consisting of hotdogs, chips and water to be served while they last.

A highlight of the event will be the colorful kites that 28 professional kite flyers will bring to Grinnell and fly all day. These professional kite flyers, all members of the American Kite Fliers Association (AKA), are coming in from states throughout the Midwest.

Kites Over Grinnell is a community-wide event that encourages young people to fly kites. To this end a total of 850 kite kits have been distributed to middle school and all three elementary schools. Students will decorate their kites over the next two weeks during their art classes. Keir Johnson, Rotary President is extremely grateful to art teachers, Farren Johnson and Josh Wardenburg for leading this effort. Various Rotarians are set up to assist students with kit assembly. Kier encourages kids to bring their decorated kites to Ahrens Park to fly during the kite festival. In addition, the public is invited to bring their own kites and participate in the fun.

During the festival a limited number of kite **kits** will be available for those wanting to participate in the flying activity. A kite clinic (hospital) operated by Rotarians and Grinnell College Swim Team will assist in the assemble of new kites, along with minor repair of existing kites when necessary.

Dave Crawford will provide music throughout the event with Jolene Jorgenson singing the "Stars Spangle Banner" during the American Flag raising ceremony. Various games will be going on simultaneously with the Kite Flying event. Spectators are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and/or blankets.

Rotary President Johnson will be handing out prizes for the following 8 judged kite contest categories: Biggest Smile, Smallest Kit, Rotary Presidents Choice, Best Colored; Funniest, Highest Flying, Most Unusual, Best Homemade.

Whether you come to the September 25th, "Kites Over Grinnell" festival to watch kids, friends, and professionals fly their kites throughout the skies or just want to enjoy the outdoors, Rotary Club of Grinnell wants all to have fun.

For more information about Kites Over Grinnell, call Bruce Blankenfeld (641)236-5939.

Dewey was born in 1930 in Ackley, Iowa. He graduated from Elmhurst College and then on to Eden to finish seminary. Some years later, he received his Doctorate of Divinity at Eden Seminary.

Dewey was a long-time Rotarian, first in California where he joined Rotary in 1989,and immediately developed a passion to serve in whatever capacity benefited the greater good. He became a faithful giver to the Rotary International Paul Harris Foundation. He was often heard telling individuals, along with various groups "Rotary does as much for Good in the World as the Church Missions do", said his wife Jo.

On his 65th birthday, Dewey retired from the ministry and became an employee of his wife Jo who had started a software company and immediately made him Business Manager. Dewey believed in women's rights within the professional world thus continually sought ways to build them up. The beauty in Dewey was while he had his opinions – he valued and respected other people's opinions. His love was strong, his faith was even stronger. He recognized the differences in Rotary Clubs, along with people in general, thus you never ever heard him criticize one or the other. His love for people was genuine.

Dewey with his wife Jo moved back to Grinnell in 2006 at which time he became a member of the Grinnell Rotary, and held several positions which included Presidency. He loved people, parties and conversations. Dewey will always be known by his fellow Rotarians, friends and family for his gregarious nature, variety of opinions, sparkly eyes, powerful voice and heartfelt laugh. Dewey passed away in October 2015 serving over 26 years in Rotary and prided himself of never missing a meeting.