

## **Robert Cole Clark**

[clarkvet@mweb.co.za](mailto:clarkvet@mweb.co.za)

Born in Johannesburg on 07.02.1944

### **FAMILY**

Father: Robert Cole (Roy) Clark (b.1913)

Mother: Doris Clark (nee Berry) (b.1916)

Brother: John (b.1946)

Spouse: Moira Eileen Clark (nee Robertson) Married 1969

Sons: Todd (1972), Brett (1973) and Roy (1976)

7 Grandchildren. Callum, Kara, Ethan, Ben, Quinn, Cole and Emily.

### **EDUCATION**

Yeoville Primary School, Johannesburg

Queens High School in Kensington, Johannesburg

Pretoria University for 1<sup>st</sup> year then

Onderstepoort

### **CAREER**

Locum with Dr. M. Azzie starting at 7am the day after I qualified in 1967!

I worked for the Johannesburg City Council for two years as Relief Veterinarian. This entailed the Johannesburg Zoo, the North and South Johannesburg beef farms, the abattoir and the guide dog owned by the lift attendant at the Johannesburg City Hall! (I had to get a bursary from the Council after the death of my father when I was in fourth year.)

I then joined George Frost and Alistair Riley in a mixed private practice in Randburg.

A year later I accepted an opportunity to work in America. My Onderstepoort education stood me in good stead for the American Veterinary Association exams. I practised in a large animal set up in the Midwest Illinois area and then at Hayes Animal Hospital in Chicago in a small animal hospital.

Returned to South Africa after 13 months to rejoin George Frost and Alistair Riley as a partner.

Three years later I decided to start my own practice in Mondeor in the Southern Suburbs of Johannesburg.

I later built an architecturally designed dream hospital in Glenvista. I ran the two hospital for many years employing 5 veterinarians.

I retired when I was 64 years old having received an offer from a previous employee.

I did a few locums for a while in retirement.

## **CONTRIBUTIONS**

I was a member of the Wits (later the Johannesburg) branch of the SAVA for my entire career.

## **OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES**

I represented South African Universities at soccer and cricket. I also represented Northern Transvaal at soccer playing alongside my lifelong colleague and friend, Alistair Riley. I set up the Onderstepoort soccer team.

I started a Queens Old Boys cricket team which went from scratch to premier league winning promotion through 12 seasons. I finished my cricket and soccer careers at 43 years of age and started playing golf. Our family hobbies included, camping, hiking, cycling and 4X4 adventures. I have travelled widely in South Africa and Africa as well as to many isolated parts of the world including the Antarctic, Arctic, Alaska, hiking Machu Picchu in Peru, the El Chorro trail in Bolivia and the Torres del Paine in Chile and dog sledding for 10 days in remote parts of Finland on the Russian border.

Happily married for 54 years.