Dr. Elmer H. Eger
Founder of The Eger Eye Group
May 22, 1919 – June 26, 2009

Elmer H. Eger, O.D., beloved husband of the late Elaine Solomon Eger, passed away in Ithaca, NY, with his three loving children at his bedside. Born in Pittsburgh, PA, the son of the late Mary Segal Eger and the late Max Eger, he is survived by his sister, Irma Morris and husband Leonard; son, Dr. Mark W. Eger and wife Susan; daughters, Marsha Eger and Ellen Joan Eger; grandchildren, Dr. Noah Eger and wife Michele; and Jason Eger and wife Janelle; and Max Brown and wife Nansa; great-grandchildren Jarah, Jonas, and Jude Eger; and Zoloo, Myagaa, and Van Brown; brother-in-law, Dr. Ronald Solomon and wife Ellie; nieces and nephews,

He was graduated from the PA College of Optometry in 1941, and during WWII, served in US Army Air Corps (now the USAF) as a Captain in the Medical Corp at Fort Polk, Louisiana; and as hospital commander at Peterson Airfield in Colorado. After military service, he returned to his hometown of Coraopolis, PA, where he established an optometric practice now known as the Eger Eye Group. After more than forty years as a family optometrist, he retired in 1983, spending the last 12 years in practice with his son, Mark. Dr. Eger was past-president of the Western Pennsylvania Optometric Society, and a Lifetime Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry where he served 10 years on the Admittance Committee. He spent more than 15 years as the school optometrist for the Neville School District, and later, the Cornell School District. Actively involved in his community, he was also a member of the local Kiwanis Club. In 1998 he moved to Ithaca, NY, to reside with his daughter, Marsha.

Even in retirement, he continued to work tirelessly in the field of low vision, researching and writing extensively. Dr. Eger is credited with inventing the LogMar Comparison Pocket Screener, and, in 1998, he patented the Egerstressometer, a hand-held clinical instrument for early detection of macular problems with both the as he worked with both the University of Rochester and the PA College of Optometry to test and standardize the instrument. He held a position on the faculty of Nova Southeastern University from 1993 to 1998. His work with low vision and geriatric care has been widely published.

An eternal optimist, with a keen mind, great perspective on life, and an equally wonderful sense of humor, Dr. Eger was a prolific reader and writer who loved the game of golf not only as a social and recreational activity but also for its healing aspects. He was adored by his children and touched the lives of everyone he ever met.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Dr. Eger’s memory may be made to the American Optometric Foundation, 6110 Executive Blvd., Suite 506, Rockville, MD 20852. The AOF is a non-profit organization dedicated to the support of young researchers in the field of optometry and vision science.