



title of his MS thesis was “Separation of Newcastle disease and infectious bronchitis viruses in mixed infection”. In 1957 he completed his research on “Some Immunological and Histological Characteristics of Virus Hepatitis of Ducks” leading to his completion of the Ph.D. degree at the University of Illinois in the same year.

Lyle served as Assistant Professor from 1957- 1959, Associate Professor from 1959 - 1961 and as Professor starting in 1961. He was appointed as Professor and Head of the Department of Veterinary Pathology and Hygiene from 1967-1976. For his service as Head of the Department of Pathology and Hygiene, the college recognized him at the program in his honor on October 17, 1979. During 1974-1979 he served as Acting Associate Dean for Veterinary Research and Graduate Education, and from 1979 to 1985 he served as Associate Dean for Veterinary Research. Lyle retired on August 31, 1985.

During his professional career at Illinois, he achieved international recognition for his work with poultry diseases and leptospirosis. In addition to authoring or co-authoring more than 100 research papers and 14 book chapters during his tenure, Dr. Hanson taught poultry diseases to veterinary students and served on numerous college committees. He served as consultant for various organizations, including work with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). His work with PAHO in particular resulted in numerous visits to Jamaica as that country tried to control a human health problem with leptospirosis.

He was a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists, an association that he helped to organize. He was listed in *Who's Who in America* and in *American Men of Science*.

Lyle was a member of NIH Veterinary Facilities Com. and served as consultant for veterinary microbiology teaching, University of Florida in 1973.

Dr. Hanson served as member of Executive Committee, North Central States Technical Committee, NC-6; NC-6 Regional Technical Committee for Eradication of Newcastle Disease, Chairman; North Central States Poultry Disease Conference, Chairman; American Veterinary Medical Association, Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association and American Association for the Advancement of Science. The ISVMA Executive Board voted to recommend Dr. Lyle Hanson for a position on the AVMA Council on Biological and Therapeutic Agents, representing the professional are of microbiology.

He had been selected to the Phi Zeta, Sigma Xi and Gamma Sigma Delta honor societies and was a member of the U.S. Animal Health Association and the American Society of Microbiologists. Dr. Hanson was a lifelong Member of the Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases, and the American Association of Avian Pathologists. In recognition of Dr. Hanson's research contributions, the 1996 Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases in Chicago was dedicated to him. He served on the University Facilities Planning Committee. He was also listed in *Who's Who, in America* and in *American Men of Science*.

The 36th North Central Avian Disease Conference was dedicated to Dr. L. E Hanson,

retiring as professor of veterinary pathobiology and associate dean of research at the University of Illinois, Dr. M. S. Hofstad, Iowa State University, and Dr. R. W. Winterfield, Purdue University. All three were cited for having made numerous contributions to the study of avian diseases. Dr. Ben Pomeroy, University of Minnesota, dedicated the meeting and presented each of the honorees with a plaque commemorating the occasion.

Lyle also received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1999, and the Special Service Award from the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine in 1997.

Lyle's family, his teachers in school and college had a significant influence on him. Robert, Lyle and Gladys Raye all attended and graduated from Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin. This was unheard of at that time for a farm family to have three children attend a 4-year degree college. They did it by working and studying hard, with no student loans.

The people who influenced Lyle were many. Among them were his parents, his grandmother, and his wife. Lyle was influenced by his older brother, Robert Hanson. His professional journey was imprinted by Bob's early academic direction. They were peers and often discussed their research. Robert Hanson was a well-recognized scientist with expertise in Newcastle Disease at the University of Wisconsin. Most probably Carl Brandly (a virologist and Dean, University of Illinois) also influenced Lyle. A few years prior to his death, Lyle in one of his notes to the then Dean H. Whitely wrote "Fowlpox research at the University of Illinois started in the 1930's by Dr. Brandly with egg propagation of fowlpox virus". In the 1959's the North Central Committee on Poultry Viruses designated Illinois to investigate fowl pox virus."

Lyle Hanson served as major advisor for nearly twenty national and international graduate students for M.S. and Ph.D. degrees, many of whom became faculty members in major universities. Lyle influenced several students including this writer.

Dr. Hanson passed away on December 19, 2007. He was preceded in death by parents, brother, Robert and his wife Ruth. Four children, ten grandchildren and four great grandchildren survive him.

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Additional information was kindly provided by Lyle's son, Craig Hanson, as follows:

**Early Years:** Lyle's early years were spent on the family farm during the great depression. They had a small dairy farm near the shores of Lake Superior. His parents were Scandinavian and were surrounded by farm families of many ethnic origins. They lived across from an Indian reservation, but more importantly a family. These friends formed the Hanson children's worldview. It was one of acceptance based on their faith that all men were created in the image of God. Thus the differences they encountered were the color of humanity and no one group defined humanity to them.

The Hanson's were a close family and all Lyle's siblings were friends for life.

Lyle's family was impacted by the multi-ethnic community they grew up in around Ashland. There were Finns, Native Americans, Slovaks, Polish, Serbian and other nationalities. Many were first generation Americans and many became close lifelong friends. This was a melting pot of peoples, which made Lyle's growing up more global than most kids. Lyle also saw the impact of children growing away from their parents because of language skills they acquired, that their parents never did. That is why Lyle always had a high regard for education but also knew "They do not give away brains in college". "Be humble" and "serve others" were mottos that Lyle lived professionally and personally.

Lyle was a quiet man and very generous with his time and talents. Peter Marshall was the Minister of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington D.C. and later became the Chaplain of the Senate. Peter Marshall influenced Lyle by his writings as he was impacted him when he lived in Washington, D.C. This prayer was in Lyle's Bible and reflects Lyle's quiet confidence.

*The Quietness of Prayer*

*"...in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength..." Isaiah 30:15*

*Father, I ask Thee to take from me now all that does harass and annoy, all that has laid upon my heart burdens of anxiety and care. I thank Thee for the stillness of this time of prayer – this oasis in my busy day when I can relax before Thee, lay my burdens down, and hand over to Thee all my anxieties.*

*At this moment, I open my heart to receive Thy blessing, knowing that in Thy presence*

*The furrows are being smoothed from my brow,*

*The lines from my face,*

*The load from my heart,*

*The doubts from my mind,*

*The fears from my soul,*

*That I am at peace.*

*And now, I thank Thee, not only for quietness without, but for Thy quietness at the heart*

*Of the universe and for quietness within. In Thy peace, I pray. Amen.*

**The War Years.** As is evident from the following clippings, all the Hanson's served and they all respected the service that each one committed to during these difficult years. Elmer Hanson was the only one to see active combat. Lyle saw one form of combat as he and Robert were on the front line of the medical advances.

Lyle and Ruth met in parasitology class during the war. It was love at first sight for Lyle but it took Ruth a few labs to warm up to this Army man. Lyle had the infamous duty of caring for Falla (President Roosevelt's dog). It seems that Falla had an encounter with another dog and needed a few stitches. The press was trying to find the pooch because the rumor was that Falla had displaced a few Army vets, which made for a nice scandal. Well, all the time Lyle and Ruth were walking the dog under the watchful eyes of the press.



Lyle and Ruth were married at the Greenbrier Hotel, which had been an Army hospital during the War. After being discharged from the Army, Lyle was hired there to help with its restoration to its old splendor as a famous Grand Hotel where presidents stayed. Ruth grew up in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, the site of the Greenbrier. Lyle was impacted by his experience that summer as he worked with Italian tile setters and often talked about their skills.

After the War was over, Lyle shared a story about the predicament he found himself in, while doing some bacterial research at Walter Reed Hospital. He had been bitten by a guinea pig, and because of the fear of some kind of infection, he was admitted to the hospital as a patient. The bite was easily treated with a few antibiotic shots, and necessitated at most, an overnight stay, just for observation. But, the army being the great dispenser of red-tape that it is, somehow "lost" his records; creating, and simultaneously demonstrating, "The Great Quintessential Bureaucratic Paradox". How could they be expected to *officially* release someone, who wasn't even *officially* there. . .? Consequently, Lyle was forced to remain in the hospital until they could relocate his medical records. This added up to an additional 10 days. So, he began wandering his floor in boredom, only to discover he was sharing space with the men who had been badly wounded during the Invasion of Normandy. Many of them finally became curious enough to ask, just what it was that had happened to the guy with the bandaid on his finger. Lyle swore he always answered them truthfully. Although, later he had to admit to feeling grateful, when not one of them seemed to believe him.

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The following is a reflection on Lyle as his brother, Elmer, saw him.

My brother, Lyle, and sister, Gladys Raye, were two faultless examples of the perfect-upper-middle-child syndrome. They never got into *any* trouble, were both excellent students throughout their highschool years, and went directly to college, where they would, of course, graduate with honors. They were the kind of kids, who's less than flawless younger brothers were always being asked, "Why couldn't you be like your older brother or sister? You know they *never* did anything like this"! Next to our dog, Rufus, I guess I'd have to say that Wayne, was my best buddy while I was growing up. He was only a couple of years older, and besides, he was the only one who was ever willing to get into almost as much trouble as I always seemed to be in. . .

The two newspaper clippings add to Lyle's story.

## A LOCK OF "FALA'S" HAIR IS SENT TO ASHLAND

At least two Ashlanders have made the acquaintance of "Fala", President Roosevelt's famous dog who recently got beat up by his lady friend.

When "Fala" was at the Walter Reed hospital undergoing extensive repairs, he was taken on promenades about the laboratories as soon as he was able to be about. On these promenades many service men met him.

Among Ashlanders who report having met Fala at the hospital are Technical Sergeant Carl Runkel, who is on duty there after an extensive period of service in India and China; and Sergeant Lyle Hanson.

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Runkel is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Runkel of 109 Fifth avenue east.

Sgt. Hanson, son of Mrs. Marian Hanson of 908 West Second Street, has seen quite a bit of "Fala" the President's Scotty, who reports annually for a check-up at the Veterinarian laboratory at the Army Medical Center in Washington, D. C., where Hanson is doing research work in vaccines and serums. Hanson has been stationed there for three years, and hopes to continue in this field after the war.

Hanson enclosed a bit of Fala's hair in one of his letters, his mother said. According to Hanson, the President's pooch is quite a sick dog.

Sgt. Lyle Hanson who entered the army a month after his graduation from Northland College in 1942, has followed the same footsteps as his older brother, Staff Sergeant Robert Hanson, who also worked at the medical center in Washington, D. C., before departing for Canada, where he is now working with a medical unit.

Three other Hanson children are also in service. Gladys Rae Hanson, 22, is a pharmacist's mate 3-c, in the WAVES in Seattle, Washington, Pvt. Elmer Hanson, 19, is overseas, and Wayne, is stationed at the Army Air Force in Eagle Pass, Texas, as a student.



# 4 Hanson Brothers, and a Sister Too, are in Service

Editor's Note: Another of the Daily Press series: "Brothers in Service."

BY DOTTIE EVANS

The Hanson children have gone to war! Yes, everyone of them. From the oldest to the youngest of the five children of Mrs. Marlon Hanson of 906 West Second Street.

Sgt. Robert F. Hanson, 26, was the first to leave home for the service. Born on May 14, 1918 in Sarona, Wisconsin, Robert came to Ashland with his family in 1924 and attended the local schools, gradu-

ated in the Civil Service in Washington. In June of 1941, he entered the medical center in Washington D. C. and later was transferred to Camp Sherman for administrative training up till the time of his departure for Canada in June of 1942.

In August of this year, Bob spent a 12-day furlough in Ashland with his relatives and friends.

His brother, Sgt. Lyle K. Hanson, 24, was born in Sarona, on October 2, 1920 and attended the Ashland local schools and the Ashland High School, graduating from Northland College in 1942. While in college Lyle was a member of the Theta Pi fraternity as was Robert.

The month following his graduation from college, Lyle enlisted in the medical department in Washington, following the footsteps of his older brother, Bob. At present he is still there doing laboratory research work and wants to continue his education in that field after the war. Sgt. Lyle Hanson was home last week, and had the good fortune of sharing his furlough with his younger brother, Elmer.

Gladys Rae Hanson, 23, is the only Hanson girl and breaks the line of boys by her place between the four brothers. She is a pharmacist's mate 3-c in the WAVES. Born on January 13, 1921 in Sarona, Gladys Rae attended the local schools here, graduating from the Ashland High School and Northland College in 1943. She was a member of Girls' Glee Club in high school, and in the choir in college.

ating from the Ashland High School and later from Northland College in 1940.

For several months after his schooling, S/Sgt. Bob Hanson wrote nature articles for the Ashland Daily Press, being an ardent enthusiast of plant and rock collections. At present he is working with the medical unit in Canada and in his leisure time, he collects plants and so far has a collection of 500 varieties since being stationed there.

Before his enlistment into service, Sgt. Bob Hanson was employ-

Two weeks after graduating from Northland College, Gladys left for Hunter College in New York to receive her boot training, and further training at New River, South Carolina, where she also received her present rating. She fully enjoys her work as an assistant in the Naval Hospital in Seattle, Washington, where she is presently stationed.

Wayne H. Hanson, the red-haired member of the family, is aviation-minded, and is a student in the Army Air Force in Eagle Pass, Texas. He was born in Sarona also, and attended the local schools, receiving his diploma from the Ashland High School in 1941. Unable to continue his education because of work on the farm, Wayne was kept very busy. After the farm was sold, he enlisted as an air cadet in March of this year in the U. S. Army Air Corps. He received training at Sheppard Field, Texas and is at present getting further training at Eagle Pass, Texas.

Following suit as those ahead of him, Pvt. Elmer S. Hanson, the last child in the family, was born here on October 25, 1925. He attended the Ellis school and graduated this year from the Ashland High School. He received his basic training at Camp Robinson, Arkansas and is at present a private in the mountain ski-troops at Camp Swift, Texas.

All of the Hanson children were very active in the choir, Sunday School and Epworth League in the Methodist church here. The latter three brothers were hunting and fishing enthusiasts.

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*Biography solicited by the Committee on the History of Avian Medicine, American Association of Avian Pathologists.*

*Additional biographical materials may be available from the AAAP Historical Archives located at Iowa State University. Contact information is as follows:*

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