



C. Evert Koop, M.D.

October 14, 1916- February 25, 2013



C. Everett Koop, MD

- Born Brooklyn, New York 1916 as only child of German Immigrants, John and Helen
- Dartmouth College (1937) A. B.
- Cornell Medical College (1941) M.D.
- University Of Pennsylvania (1947) Sc. D
- CHOP (1959) Professor of Pediatric Surgery
- CHOP (1971) Professor of Pediatrics
- CHOP (1946-81) Surgeon-in-Chief
- US Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health (1981)
- US 13th Surgeon General (1982-89)



C. Everett Koop, MD

- Pioneer and perfected pediatric surgical procedures
- 1957 separation of pygopagus(conjoined at pelvis) twins
- 1974 separation of ischiopagus(conjoined at spine) twins
- 17,000 inguinal hernia repairs
- 7,000 orchidopexies
- Many many other procedures



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- Koop later wrote that "each day of those early years in pediatric surgery I felt I was on the cutting edge. Some of the surgical problems that landed on the operating table at Children's had not even been named. Many of the operations I performed had never been done before. It was an exuberant feeling, but also a little scary. At times I was troubled by fears that I wasn't doing things the right way, that I would have regrets, or that someone else had performed a certain procedure successfully but had never bothered to write it up for the medical journals, or if they had I couldn't find it." Koop, Charles Everett (March 1, 1993). [*Koop: The Memoirs of America's Family Doctor*](#). Harper Paperbacks. pp. 127.



C. Everett Koop, MD

- 1st Editor of Journal of Pediatric Surgery when it was founded in 1966.
- Wrote *Sometime Mountains Move*
- Koop Report on Abortion
- 1976 wrote *The Right to Life, The Right to Die*
- 1978 film *Whatever Happened to the Human Race*



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- **Abortion**-opposed it on personal beliefs but felt it was a moral not public matter
- **Tobacco**- warning labels still in existence. He issued the challenge for the US to be a smoke free society by 2000
- **AIDS**- sex education, AIDS pamphlets, criticized on both sides
- **Baby Doe Amendment**- Down syndrome child with esophageal atresia allowed to pass away. 475 cases during his time at CHOP, no deaths in his last 8 years



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- Died February 25, 2013 at the age of 96 at his home in New Hampshire
 - Philadelphia Inquirer – "a courageous and brilliant pediatric surgeon who pioneered techniques ... and became an outspoken surgeon general".