



Arizonans Concerned About Smoking

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*Our Purpose Is
To Save Lives*

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MEMORIAL HALL of FAME

See our Officers page [ACAS Officers \(acasinc.net\)](http://acasinc.net) for the highly appreciated Health Pioneers and Tobacco Control Champions who have helped and supported us for decades.

It is indeed an honor for me: Leland L. Fairbanks, MD, starting my Family Physician career 1958, with the Indian Health Service in Arizona as a commissioned Officer of the U.S. Public Health Service to make some comments. As current President of Arizonans Concerned About Smoking (ACAS), my colleagues of ACAS join me in expressing both commendation and appreciation for the Monumental National and International work of ASH (Action on Smoking & Health). Our colleagues at ACAS, are very appreciative of our inimitable Founder Betty Carnes, and her publicizing the **Legal truth provided by Courageous Law Professor John F. Banzhaf III, of George Washington University, Founder of ASH, that despite the Mythology there actual-ly is no Legal basis for a so-called Legal "Right to Smoke" in America USA.**

Before our ACAS organization was founded in Arizona by Betty Carnes of Scottsdale, Arizona, she was a widely known Ornithologist in the State of New Jersey and well beyond as a national expert on majestic and beautiful birds and their locations internationally, hence was a well-traveled and well-known public figure. **Betty Carnes was the persistent never give-up crusader who constantly led the efforts for Non-Smoking Sections in Public Buildings and Non-Smoking rows on Airlines.** She was recognized at the 1983 World Conference on Smoking & Health in Winnipeg, Canada, as the leader behind Arizona passing in 1973 the first Statewide Public Place Smoking Control Law at the state-wide coverage level in any state in America.

This first statewide law **covered Smoke-Free Elevators in public buildings** as the primary publicity focus item. The way Betty Carnes overcame the previous heavy legislative opposition was quite unique. She brought to the Arizona Legislature a small size grandmother as caregiver, who was struggling while carrying her heavy (for her) 6-year-old grandson. He was weak and totally paralyzed from Polio. The Grandmother testified with very touching emotional comments with tears in her eyes, that she could no longer shop on the second or higher floors of her favorite Department Stores. Billy was too heavy to carry up or down the stairs, and the toxic tobacco smoke in the smoky elevators was so heavy she and Billy could not breathe inside the Elevators. Therefore, she had to stay on only the first floor. This testimony was so touching that it caused all Legislative opposition votes to switch to strong positives for Smoke-Free Elevators. Once this dramatic switch occurred, the Legislators then decided to also add Non-Smoking in Elementary school classrooms and Non-Smoking on City Street buses as a bonus.

In 1964 with the release of the landmark First Report of the Surgeon General's Advisory Committee on Smoking and Health under 9th US Surgeon General Dr. Luther L. Terry, and the call for "appropriate remedial action" to diminish the impact of tobacco use on the health of the American people, Professor John F. Banzhaf III Founder of ASH, along with American Lung Association were the only two organizations reported by Dr. Terry to stand up along side him and the Advisory Committee's call in support of "appropriate remedial action". Immediately afterwards, our ACAS founder and first President; Betty Carnes immediately sought and formed a close linkage working with John F. Banzhaf III on tobacco control outreach work America-wide.

Respectfully,

Leland L. Fairbanks

Leland L. Fairbanks, MD