



Dr. Harvey William Bender MD

DEC 21, 1933 - SEP 12, 2020



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Dr. Harvey William Bender MD

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Dr. Harvey W. Bender, age 86, passed away on September 12, 2020.

Harvey was born on December 21, 1933 in Corpus Christi, Texas, the son of the late Harvey Bender, Sr. and the late Bonnie Eloise Bender. He spent his childhood in Humble, Texas. He was a proud Aggie and attended college at Texas A&M, and then continued his education at Baylor Medical School. He married his high school sweetheart, Doris Merle Martin, in 1955 and enjoyed sixty years together before her passing in 2015. He was also preceded in death by grandson, William Hardie Bender.

He will be lovingly remembered by his son Todd (Peggy) Bender of Nashville, daughter Lori (Donnie) Woodward of Melbourne, FL, his sister Georgia Fields of Humble, TX, grandchildren Munro (Brad) Hickson, Scott Bender, Lyz Bender, Kristin Locke, Katie (Rhett) Fordham, close family friend Jenifer (Julian) King, and numerous grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

After graduating from medical school he moved on to do his surgical internship and residency at The Johns Hopkins Hospital, a two year rotation at the National Heart Institute, and in 1971 he moved to Nashville to become Chairman of the Department of Cardiac & Thoracic Surgery at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. A firm believer in continuing education, Harvey was involved in numerous medical societies throughout his career, including Chairman of the Board of Thoracic Surgery and President of the American College of Surgeons.

Harvey had many hobbies throughout his life - golf, tennis, flying, skiing, but nothing brought him more pleasure than fly fishing. When he stopped traveling the world in search of the perfect fly fishing spot, he continued to spend time with his close friends sharing stories about the one that got away.

Services are private. Memorial contributions may be made to Trout Unlimited (www.tu.org) in his memory. Arrangements by Spring Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery, a Nashville landmark since



Obituary

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1785 "Where Nashville Comes to Remember"



Events

Dr. Harvey William Bender MD

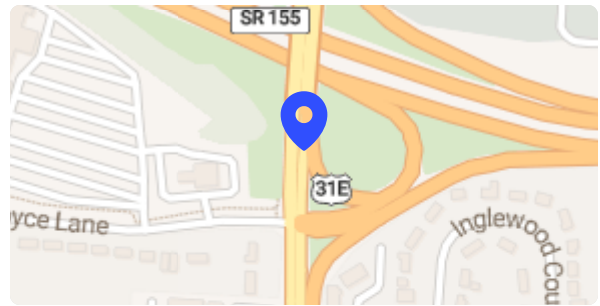
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Cemetery Details



Historic Spring Hill Cemetery

5110 Gallatin Road, Nashville TN 37216





Tribute Wall

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WR

Wendy Rachman lit a candle in honor of Harvey.

Dr Bender performed a complete Pulmonic Valvectomy on me when I was 3 years old at VUMC. I never knew him and for most of my life I never knew the name of the Surgeon who preformed the surgery. I am 46 years old and I have not had any additional heart surgeries, not even a valve replacement. Even though it has been a lot of work to maintain a body without a heart valve, I'm glad I got the opportunity to have this experience. I grew up and became an Acupuncture Physician and I help others with their hearts naturally. You were an amazing surgeon who probably saved countless people. Thank you for your dedication to your field of study and thank you for not being afraid to step out of the box. Wendy



April 4 at 7:10 PM

CH

Charles B Huddleston posted:

Dr. Bender was my mentor from the 1980's while I was at Vanderbilt. I have a picture of him hanging in my office which I see everyday I go out the door to do an operation. He had a definitive impact on my career for which I am eternally grateful.

November 11 at 5:32 AM

ST

Scott Thomas posted:

Dr Bender is my hero . He preformed a tetralogy of fallout repair on me at Johns Hopkins on August 21 1968.. Very risky procedure back then .. Literally saved my life when there were complications during surgery. It is to much to explain but he kept his cool and thought out of the box and stopped me from bleeding out on the operating table..He told my mom he didn't know if I would wake up or have any brain function if I did.. 52 years later I can say I did and went on to live a good life . I emailed him 15 years or so ago and thanked him for all he did .. words are not enough.. so sad to hear of his passing.. A great man that I will never forget. Besides the surgery he was just so nice to me and my mother. Always smiled when he came in my room .. Always thankful. Richard Scott Thomas..

October 12 at 3:17 PM

FG

Fgg lit a candle in honor of Harvey.

I will never forget the little grin on his face as he came from over six hour surgery on our precious 4 month old.



September 16 at 2:18 PM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Bender family.



September 15 at 4:58 AM



Georgia Fields` posted:

Loved my brother more than anything else in this world. Our parents and grandparents were so great to us. A life of good friends and great laughter. A Great Physician, and a Great Cowboy and Calf Roper. Started working cattle when he was maybe 10 years old. Worked his cattle during his time at Baylor College of Medicine. And, who got to feed his horse, his little sister. God Bless you, dear brother.

September 14 at 4:29 PM



Barbara "Cecil" Brazelton September 16 at 4:04 AM

My nephew Dr Harvey Bender who we always called him "Sonny". I can remember when we were younger I would go to my sister's house in the summer and Sonny always took out time to make sure I was enjoying my time visiting with my sister his "Mother". The memories will always be there for me because "Sonny" was like a brother to me and was such a kind hearted person. When became a doctor I would always call him for medical advice and he would always take out time to give me advice. He was a great Heart Surgeon. I will miss him deeply. Rest In Peace Sonny. Your Little Aunt Barbara Brazelton



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Harvey by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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