



Dr. Bob James Bowden

February 10, 1944 - March 24, 2024

Dr. Bobby James Bowden, 80, finished his earthly race and passed from this life into the arms of Jesus, his Savior on March 24, 2024, after a extended battle with cancer & various health issues. Dr. Bob lived a life of service as a physician and surgeon impacting many lives and people along the way.

Bobby was born February 10th, 1944, in Tulsa, Oklahoma to Garlen and Armatha Bowden. He was also welcomed into the family by sister, Patsy Joyce and brother, Gerald. "Bob" as the family called him, attended his early years of school in Tulsa, then the family moved to Broken Arrow in 1956, where Bob entered the 7th grade, and later graduated with the class of 1962, from Broken Arrow High School. Bob made a profession of faith in Jesus Christ at an early age, while attending First Baptist Church in Tulsa.

Bob excelled in academics and was active in student government and held leadership roles throughout high school. In addition, he played football, basketball, and was known for being the tallest man on the team, growing eventually to a height of 6' 6".

Bob chose to attend Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma to begin working toward his lifelong dream of being a physician. While in college, he also found time to attend flight training school and received his pilot's license. He truly loved to fly and eventually owned several planes throughout

his lifetime. On the weekends, he could also be found traveling back to Broken Arrow to teach his 42 year old mother, Armatha, how to drive. Even though she crashed into the garage door once, he was a patient, loving teacher and son. She received her license and forever enjoyed the freedom of being able to drive. Bob completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry in May of 1966.

Immediately after graduation, Bob moved to Kansas City, Missouri to enter The Kansas City Osteopathic School of Medicine, where he received his Doctor of Osteopathy Degree in May 1970 and completed his Residency there as well in Obstetrics and Gynecology in 1975.

Dr. Bob engaged in a career spanning almost 40 years, serving many of those years in rural areas, taking him to Wichita, Kansas; Portland & Waterville, Maine, where much of the time he received goods for service, instead of money, due to the economy in the area. He eventually returned back to Oklahoma, practicing in Enid and Claremore, before moving to Wadsworth, Ohio, in 2001. After delivering over 12,000 babies and performing thousands of gynecological surgeries, Dr. Bob retired from his practice in 2014. Dr. Bobby James Bowden fulfilled his dream, giving his life's work to the field of medicine.

During his retirement years, he enjoyed spending time and traveling with his long time, fun-loving and caring companion, Helen Berg. Bob and Helen especially enjoyed living in Florida during the winter months to escape the cold of Ohio.

In his later years, researching the Bowden family genealogy became a favorite hobby in his downtime. He applied his analytical and problem-solving mind to gather stories and to put the facts of the family in one place for generations to come. He enjoyed that time so much, he would often times

share with the family over phone calls or visits what he had learned and encouraged others to do the same for their family.

Highlights of his retirement including visiting his family when he was able and attending class reunions where he could reconnect with the life-long friendships of Lee Schoeffler, Dick Cook and Ray Jackson.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents, Garlen and Armatha Bowden, and his brother-in-law, Jack Parrot, all of Broken Arrow, OK.

Bob is survived by his son, Jeffrey Bowden and granddaughter Brooke Bowden of Ft. Meyers, FL; son, Mark Bowden (Norma), grandson, Micheal and granddaughter, Katherine of San Diego, CA, and their mother, Pam Kay, of San Diego, CA; his daughter, Leah Bowden Atwood (Jason) and grandson, Ethan of McKinney, Texas and her mother, Deborah Bowden of Claremore, OK.

He is survived by his sister, Patsy Joyce Parrott of Broken Arrow, OK and brother, Gerald (Julia) of Midland, TX; niece, Jacki Yager of Broken Arrow, OK; nephew, Dr. Douglas Bowden (Kola) of Greenwood, MS; niece, Cindy Payton (Patrick) of Midland, TX as well as numerous cousins, great nieces and nephews and their families.

Bob is also survived by his companion and friend, Helen Berg of Wadsworth, OH and her children, Heather Berg Madden, Julie Berg Todd and Charles Berg. Helen and her children cared for Bob during his illness these last few years, which bonded them and grew into a shared mutual care and love for each other. Along with Jeffrey, his son, they all surrounded him with love at the time of his passing.

A visitation will be held in Broken Arrow, OK at Hayhurst Funeral Home on Friday, March 29, from 12PM to 2PM, with the funeral service immediately following at 2:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers the family has requested donations be sent to:

Barberton Hospice Fund
Summa Health Foundation
141 North Forge St
Akron, Ohio 44304

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery

5111 S. Memorial Dr.
Tulsa, OK 74145
(918) 627-0220
<http://memorialparktulsa.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 29. 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Hayhurst Funeral Home
1660 South Elm Place
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
(918) 258-9623
hayhurstfuneralhome@gmail.com

Funeral Service

MAR 29. 2:00 PM (CT)

Hayhurst Funeral Home
1660 South Elm Place
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
(918) 258-9623
hayhurstfuneralhome@gmail.com

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Funeral Service*



Hayhurst Funeral Home - March 29, 2024 at 05:22 PM



“ *Kathy Mey lit a candle in memory of Dr. Bob James Bowden*



Kathy Mey - March 29, 2024 at 09:22 AM



Dr Bowden was one of the most compassionate and talented physicians that I had the great privilege to work with. Our staff will never forget him and his patients were very lucky to have had him.

Kathy Mey - March 29, 2024 at 09:23 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Pictorial Video Tribute*



Hayhurst Funeral Home - March 29, 2024 at 09:11 AM

NO

We love you Bob. What an amazing video. Hearing Uncle Jacks voice melts our hearts. Katherine, Michael & Norma

Norma - March 29, 2024 at 11:38 PM

GP

“ *Gerald Julia, Doug, Kola, Cindy, Patrick purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Dr. Bob James Bowden.*



Gerald Julia, Doug, Kola, Cindy, Patrick - March 28, 2024 at 04:20 PM

MK

“ *Mary Sorge ~ Leesa & Scott Judy & Kent purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. Bob James Bowden.*



Mary Sorge ~ Leesa & Scott Judy & Kent - March 27, 2024 at 08:32 PM

HH

“ *It is our honor and privilege to serve the Bowden family and to provide this permanent tribute website in memory of Bob.*



Hayhurst Funeral Home - March 27, 2024 at 11:54 AM

MP

“ *Dr. Bob was a precious soul. He attended Arrow Heights Baptist Church in Broken Arrow with his family during his growing up years. Two of my three brothers-in-laws were in his class.*

To all of his family, my deepest sympathy during this very difficult time. We know that he is free from pain and all of his medical issues. He is in the presence of our Lord, and those believers who have gone on before him. May you find peace in that, and may our Lord touch your broken heart with the many fond memories of Bob that you have.

*With love and prayers
Marcella Pense*

Marcella Pense - March 26, 2024 at 09:56 AM