



William Pryor, Sr.

August 30, 1924 - March 24, 2012

Pawleys Island

William Watkins Pryor, Sr. MD

Dr. William Watkins Pryor, age 87, passed away on Saturday, March 24, 2012 at his residence.

Dr. William Watkins Pryor was born on August 30, 1924 in Oxford, North Carolina. He was the only child of William Henry Pryor and Annie May Watkins Pryor. Predeceased by his wife of 60 years Julia Ann Smoot Pryor, he is survived by his four children: Anne P. Garrett, Katherine P. Brown (Richard), William W. Pryor, Jr., MD (Cherylann) and J. Clifton Pryor, MD. He will be remembered always as a kind and loving person by them and his eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

"Putt", as his family called him, left home for Wake Forest College at the age of sixteen. After two years of undergraduate studies, he entered Duke Medical School. He received his medical degree from Duke University in 1947. He also did his internship and residency in Internal Medicine at Duke Medical Center. After residency training, Dr. Pryor spent two years in the Air Force at Wright Air Development Center. In 1953, he returned to Duke as an associate in cardiology and as an instructor in the department of medicine. Dr. Pryor

completed a Fellowship in Cardiovascular Medicine in 1955.

That year, Dr. Pryor began his practice of Internal Medicine and Cardiology in Greenville, South Carolina. He was Greenville's first cardiologist to establish practice in the city. In 1971, he was appointed as Director of Internal Medicine for the Greenville Hospital System. Always active in teaching, Dr. Pryor was the first director of the Internal Medicine training program. After retiring from his position as Vice President of Medical Education at GHS, he continued as a consultant. Until just recently, Dr. "Putt" volunteered as the Smith Medical Clinic in Pawley's Island, South Carolina.

Dr. Pryor's many accomplishments included membership in the Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society as well as earning the distinction of "Fellow of the American College of Physicians". He served as Governor for the South Carolina Chapter of the American College of Physicians and he received its highest honor, the Laureate Award. Dr. Pryor was recognized again in 2005 by the organization with the James A McFarland, MV, FACP award.

For the past four years, "Putt" lived at Litchfield Beach, South Carolina in the family beach house. He enjoyed playing tennis, fishing, and an occasional night of dancing. He was able to travel to Duke Medical School Reunions as well as to family gatherings.

Interment will be at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC.

Services will be private. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to the Smith Medical Clinic, Inc, 116 Baskervill Drive, Pawley's Island, SC 29585 or Tideland Community Hospice, Inc., 2591 N. Frasier St., Georgetown, SC 29440 or GHS Pryor Society Legacy Fund c/o Department of Medicine, 701 Grove Rd. Greenville, SC 29605

Sign a guestbook at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com/obituaries

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ *The Alumnae Association of the Greenville General School of Nursing would like to express sincere sympathy to the family during this difficult time.*

Alumnae of GGH School of Nursing - April 01, 2012 at 10:32 PM



“ *Alumnae Of GGH School Of Nursing sent a virtual gift in memory of William Pryor, Sr.*



Alumnae of GGH School of Nursing - April 01, 2012 at 10:30 PM

KP

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Kasie Pryor - March 27, 2012 at 06:37 PM

LM

“ Dr. Pryor contributed more than words can express to the compassionate practice of medicine in Greenville, SC. As the founding chair and program director of the Internal Medicine Reidency Program of the GHS, he overcame many barriers while demonstrating wisdom and leadership. His deep passion for medical education, which continued even after retirement, has served the Greenville community well. He was a mentor and true friend. He will always be remembered with love and devotion.

Lloyd Hayes

Lloyd E. Hayes MD - March 27, 2012 at 01:39 PM

DP

“ Dr. Pryor was the first doctor I met in Greenville, and always one of the finest. Many wonderful stories of the fantastic things Putt did for patients, colleagues, residents and and the community. He will always have a special place in my mind and heart.

Dave Potts

David W. Potts - March 27, 2012 at 08:37 AM

JF

“ Dr. Pryor was and is very special to me. Having served as his administrator at GHS for several years, I learned much from him and greatly appreciated/needed his respect. After his retirement, Dr. Pryor would go out of his way to wave me down at GMH just to say hello. I owe much to Dr. Pryor. He was good to me and many. I will always remember him and his friendship. May God continue to bless him. Jim Freeman, Greenville



Jim Freeman - March 26, 2012 at 04:11 PM

LW

I'M FREE
Author Unknown

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.
I'm following the path that God has laid, you see.
I took His hand when I heard Him call.
I turned my back, and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day
To laugh... to love... to work... or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I found that peace at the end of the day.*

*If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joys.
A friendship shared... a laugh... a kiss.
Oh, yes, these things, too, I will miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow.
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full. I savored much.
Good friends... good times... a loved one's touch.*

*Perhaps my time seems all too brief.
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts... and peace to thee.
God wanted me now...
He set me free.*

Lori Williford - April 03, 2012 at 09:34 AM

MJ

“ *My deepest sympathy to the family on the loss of your loved one.....may you find comfort and peace during these times through prayer and reading God's word.(Psalm 55:22)*

M. Johnson - March 26, 2012 at 10:49 AM

MP

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Margaret Bethea McHenry, Niece of Putt - March 26, 2012 at 09:34 AM

WM

“ *I considered Putt a friend and mentor. He was supportive and kind when I entered practice in Greenville. The last time I saw him (16 months ago), he was attending a cardiology conference in Columbia. He was as sharp and friendly as ever. He will be missed.*
Bill Algary

William Page Algary, MD - March 26, 2012 at 06:14 AM

PT

“ *Fay and I really enjoyed our times with Putt. I enjoyed our fishing, riding to Mt. Pleasant, our tennis matches and especially his conversations about his personal history and his wonderful family. I will miss him and his kindness.*
Paul Turner

Paul E. Turner - March 25, 2012 at 09:04 PM

JB

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Juliana Brown Barrett - March 25, 2012 at 07:46 PM