



Dr. David Austin Ohlwiler

September 12, 1922 - January 21, 2020

Dr. David Ohlwiler, a renowned plastic surgeon, passed away on January 21, 2020 surrounded by his loving family at 97. Born in Southbridge Massachusetts in 1922, David attended Parks Aviation College in St. Louis before flying for TACA Airlines throughout Central America in the early 1940s, eventually serving as Chief Pilot.

Upon returning to the US, Doc graduated from the School of Medicine at University of Rochester in 1954 and attended Johns Hopkins University. After completing residency at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, Dr. Ohlwiler established his practice in Winter Park, FL in 1961 and was a visionary in the field of Plastic Surgery.

Dr. Ohlwiler served as Chief of Staff at Florida Hospital in Orlando before moving his private practice to Goldenrod, FL in the early 70's building one of first outpatient surgical centers in Central Florida. He enjoyed volunteering on mission trips to Central America performing surgery on those in need. After retiring from private practice at 75 years young, David moved to western North Carolina to enjoy his retirement years.

Dr. Ohlwiler is survived by four children Johanna Picone, Kristen Holmes, Karen Ohlwiler and Eric Ohlwiler. His professionalism and compassion will be missed by all.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Marlow's Tavern at 1008 South 17-92 Winter Park, FL 32792 on Friday February 28 at 2:00.

In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to smiletrain.org in support of cleft palate care around the world.

Tribute Wall

WH

“ I met Dr. Dave in 1963 —57 years ago when I started my practice. He kindly referred my first neurosurgical case. Over the years we became very good friends, occasionally operating together in the middle of the night on an unfortunate trauma victim. What a talented, compassionate man!

William E. Hoffmeister, M.D.

William Hoffmeister - February 27, 2020 at 02:52 PM

CP

“ A pioneer in his field who gave generously of his talents. I had his old office.

Calvin Peters, MD

Calvin Peters - February 27, 2020 at 01:11 PM

SR

“ To the families of Dr. Ohlwiler, You all have my deepest prayers of comfort and peace as you honor and remember your father. Your father was my HERO!! As a young child, he operated on me fifty years ago following a severe blow to my face. He saved my eye sight and my eye. He performed an amazing plastic surgery on my face, that you cannot see not one scar on my face. To think that he rebuilt my orbital socket and truly saved my eyesight as a 10 year old girl.. I can't tell you how thankful I am for his passion of healing and skill as a surgeon!! He was truly one amazing man that I was blessed to have in my life...

My deepest sympathies to you all,

Sally Meier Ranton

Sally Ranton - February 09, 2020 at 09:19 AM

CM

“ We are so sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. Ohlwiler. He was a very kind, sincere and a true gentleman. He will definitely be missed in our dental office, not only as a patient but as a friend. Whenever Dr. Ohlwiler came in for a dental appointment he would always bring beautiful flowers from his garden. Such a special giving man. We are so thankful that this is not goodbye to our loved ones, but we will see you in a little while. From the office of Christopher Scott Miller and staff our thoughts and prayers will continue to be with your family in the days and weeks ahead.

Chris Miller - January 31, 2020 at 01:59 PM

BQ

“ I provided anesthesia for Dr Ohlwiler in his office operatory for over 15 years. He was an excellent surgeon and wonderful friend and mentor. He had a great dry sense of humor that was always on target. He had a full life and my deepest condolences to his loving family.

Barbara Quick

Barbara Quick - January 29, 2020 at 04:08 PM

CR

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Christopher Raimy - January 27, 2020 at 04:05 PM

KH

Oh how wonderful. Dad loved being on his porch and the view out back!

Kristen Ohlwiler Holmes - January 28, 2020 at 04:14 PM

CR

It was a special place and he was a special person. The morning of this photo, a bear had been spotted in the meadow below the house. Sometime before our visit, he told us that a bear had come up on the porch and was enjoying the birdfeeder!

At sunrise, the house was above the clouds which had settled into the valley below. I asked him if the view ever got old. "No it is always beautiful".

*Christopher Raimy
University of Rochester*

Christopher Raimy - January 29, 2020 at 09:30 AM

JP

Thank you Mr Raimy. Yes my Dad loved the view. North Carolina was a special place to him

Johanna Picone

Johanna Picone - February 09, 2020 at 02:29 PM

GI

*“ I pray that in the midst of your sorrow you find comfort in all the joyful memories shared. The Lord is your strength.
Gigi*

Gigi - January 25, 2020 at 02:05 PM

ED

“ My sincere love and condolences to all David’s family and loved ones! He was a dear friend, neighbor, partner in business, personal surgeon for me and family members!!!! I saw his healing skills results on one of his S.America trips in Honduras at the same time a revolution was happening around the hospital. He changed the lives of so many young afflicted people on many trips! A talented and productive life, He will be greatly missed.

Edwin B. Crenshaw, DDS - January 25, 2020 at 10:07 AM

CJ

“ I’m sorry that you lost your Dad. But I know he lived a good life and a long one. Just a side note; I keep bringing him up to my grandkids, telling them to eat slow and you will live a long life. When I was a kid we would come and eat dinner at the lake house and he would chew his food 25 times, because I asked him why HE WOULD TALK WHEN HE ATE AND THAT WAS THE REASON HE SAID. I DON’T KNOW IF IT WAS TRUE OR NOT BUT IT HAS STAYED WITH ME OVER 60 YEARS

carolyn johnson - January 25, 2020 at 06:46 AM

RG

“ Dear Cousins,
So sorry for your loss! Tom and I are thinking of each of you! So glad to hear you were all together with your dad. 97 wow he had a long life. Thinking of you all with love from Tom and Rene’ Guenter

Rene Guenter - January 24, 2020 at 10:18 PM

SW

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Susan Wiggins - January 24, 2020 at 07:23 PM

SW

“ *Dr. Ohlwiler was a family friend of my parents. I remember him visiting us on many occasions and I remember going to Dr. and Mrs. Ohlwiler's home. He and my dad worked together on radio wiring on Dr. O's Bonanza, and Dr. O would bring hot peppers back from his Honduras trips. I also remember a gift Dr. O gave to my parents of a dark wood hand carved table he brought back from one of his trips. Looking back, I recall that he was quite tall and he was a quiet and thoughtful gentleman. Hopefully I can find a few photos to share. My condolences to Krissy and Dr. Ohlwiler's family.*

Susan Spiegel Wiggins

Susan Wiggins - January 24, 2020 at 07:15 PM

KH

“ Our family is deeply saddened by the passing of our father. Dad (known as “Doc” and “Doctor O” by all that knew him) was blessed to have lived a long and rewarding life and until the last few months he lived independently in North Carolina. He was a very humble and compassionate man who quickly befriended those he met professionally and socially. In the Central Florida area I’ve crossed paths with so many who have said, “I knew your dad!” and “how’s Dave?” and would reflect on how they met. I have been told about his passion for facial reconstruction and his volunteer mission trips for cleft palate repairs. It truly makes my heart smile when I hear the stories that people share of my father. Our family appreciates the memories your share and will keep these memories eternally.

Kristen Holmes - January 24, 2020 at 03:59 PM



My heart and prayers go out to Dr Davids children, family and BeDe his beloved poodle. I got the chance to meet Dr David in 2019 with my mom. I’m so blessed that I was able to be with him and help in some small ways nothing compared to all the help he gave to others. I got the chance to take a cabota Ride with him up the Mountain in NC. I will always remember his beautiful blue eyes and handsome smile. Everyone that met him really loved him.was a very sweet and beautiful person and friend. I had the pleasure of talking with him on FaceTime the Sunday before his passing. God bless all of you and I know I will see him again

Candace McCullough - January 28, 2020 at 11:56 PM

PJ

*"Uncle David" was a very special person to our family. He was my mother, Katherine's, youngest brother, and she took care of him in his early years. During the winter of 1949 he flew his small plane, with skis for landing gear, up from PA to our home in CT, and took me up (at 5 years old) for my first plane ride. Over 60 years ago he brought my mother back a handmade blanket from Central America which today Lynda and I keep at the end of our bed. On a cold NH night we ask "should we put Uncle David's blanket on tonight ?" Our condolences go out to our cousins; Johanna, Kristen, Karen, and Eric. Be grateful that you have had such a great man in your lives for so many years.
Peter and Lynda Johnson .*

Peter Johnson - February 19, 2020 at 05:05 PM