



Dr. Edwin Earl O'Neal

August 25, 1925 - January 11, 2025

Dr. Edwin Earl O'Neal, of Oviedo, returned to his Heavenly Creator on January 11, in his 100th year. He is survived by his loving wife of 66 years, Roberta; six children - Nina Jo, Mechelle, Brenda, Kim (Keith), Karee (Bobby), and Eric (Kathy); 11 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, with a fourth coming in May.

Edwin (Ed to his many friends) began life in depression-era Alabama from which, as a 16-year-old, he was able to achieve his wanderlust and ambition to serve his country by joining the Merchant Marines where he worked his way up to Chief Engine Room Operator. While serving the Pacific Theater during WWII, he delivered sugar to Cuba, rice to India, and much-needed goods worldwide to our troops. After the war, he commenced his rigorous academic journey at the University of Alabama, leading to his life's work - that of a physician. Upon graduation, Ed continued his quest at the prestigious Tulane University Medical School, where he earned his M.D. while falling in love with a nursing student named Roberta Hanson. They married and returned to her hometown in Central Florida where, with his wife by his side, Dr. O'Neal would become a prominent fixture in the Orlando medical community. From a black-bag country doctor to a private practice physician, "Doc" (to his patients) provided health care to families across the region for over 40 years.

To the surprise of no one, retirement came hard for Dr. O'Neal; so even after

leaving his practice, he returned to work twice before finally hanging up his stethoscope. Ed spent his retirement enjoying his antique cars, nurturing his plants, and tending to the small farm he and Roberta built in Virginia. He generously contributed to causes he believed in and enjoyed telling stories to all who appreciated his characteristic wit and charm. Whether serving his country, his patients, or visiting with family and friends, one could always count on “Doc” to make you feel welcomed, well cared for, and integral to his life’s journey.

Although Ed’s worldly adventure has ended, as a devout Christian, he will be alongside his Lord and Savior as he watches over his flock. And, although he will be sorely missed by his family and friends, “Doc” will live on in their hearts through wonderful memories and the assurance that he will always be there to care for them as their guardian angel extraordinaire. Rest in peace, Dr. O’Neal, for you have more than earned it during your well-lived life of service and love.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to St. Luke’s Lutheran Church Benevolence Fund.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JAN 18. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Luke's Lutheran Church
2021 W State Rd 426
Oviedo, FL 32765

Burial

JAN 18. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (ET)

St. Luke's Lutheran Church Cemetery
2101 Church St
Oviedo, FL 32765

Tribute Wall

AN

“ Amanda, Payton, Dylan and Nancy purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Dr. Edwin Earl O'Neal.



Amanda, Payton, Dylan and Nancy - January 17, 2025 at 11:53 AM

DI

“ Daniel and Irene purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Dr. Edwin Earl O'Neal.



Daniel and Irene - January 16, 2025 at 09:21 PM

DI

“ Daniel and Irene planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Edwin Earl O'Neal.

Daniel and Irene - January 16, 2025 at 09:21 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Edwin Earl O'Neal.

January 16, 2025 at 07:02 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Edwin Earl O'Neal.*



January 16, 2025 at 07:02 PM



“ *Loved him! He was my family's doctor for years. Dr O'Neal took my tonsils out when I was a kid. I remember him putting blankets on me in the operating room because I told him I was cold. When I was 13 he pierced my ears, not to mention all my visits to him for illness. SO many good memories of this kind and gentle man. RIP Dr O'Neal.*

Becky Higgins - January 16, 2025 at 05:22 PM



“ *Barbara A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Edwin Earl O'Neal.*

Barbara A. - January 13, 2025 at 11:54 PM

BB

“ Being that my Dad died when I was 8, I found myself seeking a father-figure to share some everyday “family” experiences with. Perhaps unbeknownst to Dr. O’Neal, he was that guy.

I always enjoyed visiting him and Roberta at their lake house where he’d take me out to his greenhouse and explain how it was built, how he protected and nurtured his plants, and what they would all grow up to be. Then we’d stroll out to the dock where he’s share some of the history of the lake and the property around it. His gentle, southern demeanor and vast knowledge of just about everything made him a joy to be around.

I will smile every time I think of him and be grateful for having the privilege of knowing him. Rest in peace, my friend, as you watch over the wonderful family you cherished here on earth. Love you, Dr. O!

Barb Burrows - January 13, 2025 at 11:01 PM

CM

My deepest condolences to Dr. O’Neals family. I started going to Dr. O’Neal when I was 11 years old & continued seeing him until he retired. He was a wonderful & compassionate doctor. God has received an Angel. Love you Dr. O’Neal.

Carolyn McRorie - January 17, 2025 at 10:36 AM

TP

Don’t know where to start.... Dr O’Neil was not only my childhood doctor, but family as well. Eric O’Neil and I were hellions growing up on lake Conway, so many memories. I haven’t seen the O’Neil family since they lived at the Greywood estate off lake Margaret in Orlando Florida. How time has flown.....seems like yesterday that me and Eric were swimming the canals of lake Conway, good times. My condolences go out to Roberta, my second mom growing up, Karee, Brenda, and Michelle. Love you all. Sincerely Timothy Garrett Parker.

Timothy Parker - August 18, 2025 at 12:44 PM