



Donald ("Doc") Rawls Hutchison

August 17, 1921 - February 16, 2015

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Donald R. Hutchison of Bloomington passed away peacefully at home on Monday, February 16, 2015. He was 93 years old.

Born August 17, 1921, in Bessemer, Alabama, he was the son of Ernie Horace and Ruby Florence (Rawls) Hutchison. He graduated from high school in Covington, TN, received his undergraduate degree from Transylvania College in Western, KY, did graduate work at Earlham College in Richmond, IN and earned his Medical degree in 1946 from University of Kentucky School of Medicine in Louisville, KY. He was faithfully and happily married for 65 years to Elizabeth Nell Tichenor Hutchison from Calhoun, KY, and was a member of The United Churches in Hot Springs, SD.

Becoming a medical doctor was a dream of Doc's from the time he was six years old. He always said he wanted to be able to help people get well. He earned his board certification for Family Practice and lived out his life as he had dreamed. He

first practiced medicine while stationed at Fort Benning, GA. In 1951 he moved his wife and young family to Fountain City, IN, to start his private practice. It was there with his wife, Nell, who worked right beside him, he earned the love and respect of his patients. For 22 dedicated and rewarding years, he made house calls to home bound patients often with the county snow plow clearing the way for him in a winter storm. He saw patients in his office daily and drove to the nearest hospital ten miles away sometimes twice a day to see his hospitalized patients. As the pace became too difficult, he moved to Hot Springs, SD, to finish his medical career at the Veteran's Administration there. He fulfilled his Civil Service years and retired in 1987. In Hot Springs with a normal 40 hour week, he was able to spend many early evenings at nearby Lake Angostura practicing his second passion-fishing! After retirement, Doc and Nell spent many years traveling extensively across the U.S. and Canada with fishing always on the agenda.

Another passion of his was his love of gardening. His bountiful harvests were shared and enjoyed by many. He also enjoyed imparting knowledge to all who surrounded him. He would often quiz his caregivers on the meanings of words and try to teach them something new each day-a great communicator and educator as well. Doc will always be remembered as a well loved and respected family physician, a loving family man who taught his family the value of hard work, integrity and having pride in all one tries to do.

He is survived by his three children, Donald W. Hutchison (Joyce) of Wilmington, DE, Mary D. Hawkins (Kem) of Bloomington and

Elizabeth Perley (Edwin) of Yutan, NE; one brother, Walter Hutchison (Helen) of N. Ft. Myers, FL and one sister-in-law, Betty Keith Hutchison of Cincinnati, OH; seven grandchildren, Debbie Ellis (Scott), David Hutchison, Robert Hutchison (Jenny), Christy Nowlin (Marty), Ryan Hawkins (Stacey), Mary Mollitt (Todd) and Mark Perley (Kendra); twelve great grandchildren, Leah, Jacey and Kendall Ellis, Owen and Eli Hutchison, Cara, Norah and JT Nowlin, Blake and Mason Hawkins, Mia and Ethan Mollitt.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Elizabeth Nell, his sister and brother-in-law Loraine and Robert Kiracofe, a brother Emory Hutchison and a brother-in-law, Thomas Tichenor.

A Memorial Service celebrating his life will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the Salvation Army or a charity of your choice.

Allen Funeral Home is handling the arrangements and online condolences may be sent to the family at www.allenfuneralhome.org

Tribute Wall

MR

“ We never had the privilege to know Dr. Hutchison personally even though we both grew up in Richmond, Indiana. Through his daughter, Mary, we realized he was a remarkable husband, father and doctor. Our heartfelt sympathy and love is extended to the family.

Mac and Ruth Dubbs - October 26, 2015 at 04:01 PM

ID

“ My family too, were patients of Dr. Hutchison during his time in Fountain City. I remember during a diphtheria epidemic, my brother and I both had sore throats and fever. He did the throat culture and told my mother he would check on the results at the end of the day-- which for him was late and would drive to our house and pull in the driveway and honk three times if the result was negative. What a relief for my Mother when she heard those 3 honks around midnight. I also fondly recall working with him as young nurse as he would make rounds at Reid Hospital. He was a great physician, humanitarian and person.
Idris Monroe Smith

Idris Smith - October 26, 2015 at 04:01 PM

M(

“ Dear Family of Doctor Hutchison,
My mother and sister worked with your father in Fountain City, In. for many, many years. I fondly remember your family and especially your father. He looks the same as when I knew him so he obviously lived a healthy and satisfying life.
So sorry for your loss.
Martha

Martha Skruby (Barton) - October 26, 2015 at 04:01 PM

SW

“ *Dr. Hutchison was our family doctor from the time he came to Fountain City until he moved. We loved him. He always took time with his patients and their health concerns and personal issues. We will always be thankful that he was a part of our lives.*

Shirley Mitchell Wise - October 26, 2015 at 04:01 PM

ST

“ *DEAR FAMILY,
I WAS ONE OF DOC'S PATIENTS WHEN I WAS A LITTLE KID IN FT CITY, THE LAST TIME I SEEN HIM I WAS AFTER I GOT MARRIED, HE WAS ALWAYS A GREAT DOCTOR. MY PRAYERS ARE WITH THE FAMILY AT A TIME LIKE THIS
STEVE*

Steve Hickey - October 26, 2015 at 04:01 PM