



Dr. Thomas Wayne Sharp

October 25, 1945 - December 19, 2024

Dr. Thomas Wayne Sharp, aged 79, passed away peacefully in Bloomington, Indiana on December 19th surrounded by his family and loved ones.

After graduating from Indiana University School of Medicine and completing his internship in 1973, Tom started working in Bloomington, Indiana, in family practice. He was the Monroe County Health Commissioner from 1976 until spring 2023. He was a respected member of his profession and a lifetime member of the Monroe Owen County Medical Society.

Tom was an avid fan of the Indiana University Hoosiers, a member of the Well House Society, and enjoyed all IU sporting events. In his free time, Tom enjoyed golf, basketball, pickleball, tennis, and social events. Tom's parents were in education; his father was a schoolteacher, principal, coach and superintendent, and his mother was a teacher, dean, and counselor in Indiana schools. His childhood afforded him the experience of growing up in many locations, Auburn, Hamilton, Spencer, Logansport, Tehran, Iran, Bloomington, and Highland.

Tom's humor and kindness were key traits that provided comfort to those around him, easing the fears of patients and fostering strong relationships with colleagues. He valued shared experiences with family, particularly gatherings and vacations, where connection and interaction were central. As an

extrovert, Tom thrived in lively environments, contributing to family traditions, and leaving lasting memories.

Tom is survived by his partner, Olga Kaufmann; Kim Sharp; his children, Megan Wheeler and husband Jerry of Westfield, Alison Tunstall and husband Allen of Zionsville, and Sara Sharp of Bloomington; grandchildren, Emily Hinds (Dayton), Declan Wheeler, Isabella Tunstall, Andrew Bush, Rylan Wheeler, Graydon Tunstall, Maddox Wheeler, and Chloe Tunstall; 3 great grandchildren; his brother Charles Sharp of Colorado; his sisters Anne Lucas of Bloomington, and Susan Sharp of Marin County, California; his cousins Jim Sharp, and Mike and Dan Emrick; and many nieces and nephews.

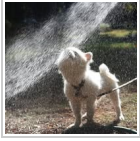
Tom is preceded in death by his parents, Dr. Charles Lee Sharp and Virginia May Sharp; uncles and aunts, Earl and Veral Sharp, Florence and Charles Emrick, and Carol and Herbert Magnussen; and cousin James Sharp.

The family will hold services at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the IU School of Medicine. Please make checks payable to: IU Foundation and mail to IUF; PO Box 7072; Indianapolis, IN 46207-7072. Indicate "In memory of Dr. Thomas W. Sharp" on the memo line, you may also go to <https://go.iu.edu/8rU9> All donations will be routed to further liver research.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory 4155 South Old State Road 37 has been entrusted with the services and online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com

Tribute Wall



“ One of my mentors during my second year of medical school in Bloomington in 1976. A great guy and a great example for me when I was finding my way - I think of him often. Just saw this today...

Jon Morris - August 15, 2025 at 11:20 AM

CG

“ Tom was our very dear friend. Whatever words I attempt to write cannot honor his memory sufficiently. Tom enriched our lives with so much love, laughter, generosity and humor. His door was always open to us. Spending a Friday or Saturday evening with Tom and Olga has always been such an enjoyable part of our lives. There was never an evening of playing euchre or watching a football game where we didn't leave full of food, drink and a heart full of love. I just can't express enough how much Tom's friendship has given us so much joy in our lives. He will be fondly remembered and forever missed.

Chris Gould - January 17, 2025 at 09:38 PM

DW

“ Dr. Sharp was my children then entire family physician for 2() decades. We loved him like a family member. I didn't know he had died, I just came across an old paper and burst into tears. There were so many things I wanted to tell him by mail or in person, he meant so much to my family, he was the only person that could get my daughter to get rid of the lip ring, and talk any sense at all into our youngest son. He once treated my daughter in an emergency situation when she was in Spain at college. He was such a fine man, so much smarter & wiser than others that he could get in the line of fire, and he wasn't afraid, he was as courageous as he was full of the finest character, you'd ever see on this planet. We love you Dr. Sharp, have a great journey.

deborah c wilkin - January 17, 2025 at 04:22 PM

MZ

“ I was very saddened to learn of Tom's passing. He was a dear friend from boyhood that I was able to reconnect with when I moved to Bloomington following my retirement. Tom took good care of both of my daughters, who were patients of his while they attended IU, and when I arrived in 2004, he was my primary care physician. He and I were both big IU sports fans, and Tom would generously invite me to a basketball game or two every year. He was a fine doctor and a good friend. I will miss him.

Mike Zabawa

Michael Zabawa - January 07, 2025 at 05:34 PM

SS

Thank you for sharing.

Sara Sharp - January 16, 2025 at 04:27 PM

DC

Worked for Dr. Sharp he was the best

Diana Clark - January 31, 2025 at 06:18 PM

KM

“ *So many wonderful memories of Tom and his family from the time we were all children. He had a wicked sense of humor and a great laugh which I can easily hear just thinking of him! Tom was not only a good friend, he was also a deeply caring doctor who was there for us when we needed him most as my father was dying. Although I had not seen him for a few years, I remember him with great fondness. Loving thoughts and prayers for all of Tom’s family.*



Kathy Milne - January 02, 2025 at 12:47 PM

SS

Thank you, Kathy.

Sara Sharp - January 16, 2025 at 04:28 PM



“ *I was an employee of Dr. Sharp. I can say he loved a good joke. He was also a very caring doctor and I enjoyed working with him.*
Linda Scott



Linda Scott - December 31, 2024 at 06:57 PM

FM

“ Tom and I were very close friends at The Indiana School of Medicine. Tom was an outstanding Doctor in every way. There are things I cannot reveal over mutual memories in Anatomy Lab together in MED SCHOOL... it would just be inappropriate... but we had some really interesting and amusing moments.



Dr Tom was witty humorous and SHARP! He was very athletic and competitive. I am sure he treated his patients as teammates and always do his best for them.

*The World was a better place when Tom was here; he was liked and loved by many. His life touched so many to make them better.
GODSPEED, DR TOM*

Frank W Yoder,MD

FRANK YODER MD - December 30, 2024 at 06:39 PM

JM

“ Dr. Tom Sharp was a close friend of mine and was a very special physician! He cared so much for his patients and they thought he was their very special physician. He was an active member of the Monroe Owen County Medical Society including being on its current Board of Directors. He maintained social relationships with other retired physicians in his circle of friends. The Bloomington's physician community will certainly miss Tom Sharp for many reasons. I certainly wish condolences for Tom's family. May he rest in peace.

James V. Faris, II, MD - December 29, 2024 at 01:44 PM

SR

Dr Sharp was loved and adored by his patients. As Dr. Faris said, he was an active member of the Monroe Owen County Medical Society and served on the board for years. He will be missed! RIP, Dr. Sharp.

Susan Richardson - December 29, 2024 at 07:35 PM

SF

I was very saddened to find out that Dr Sharp had passed away. He was a wonderful caring doctor Who took care of me ever since I was 19 years old. Several of my other family members changed their positions to become a patient of Dr Sharps. He always cared a great deal about his patients, he will be greatly missed. Shelley Terhune-Fowler

Shelley Fowler - March 24, 2025 at 11:40 PM

EV

“ Best doctor known to medicine! He will be missed!

Evelyn - December 29, 2024 at 12:16 PM

JK

“ He was my family doctor for years until his retirement. I remember once when I told him about braking my leg racing a motorcycle, he told me about when he got hurt skiing and kind of chuckled and made a comment about more age related activities. Sorry for the loss to the family, he was an amazing physician and always made me feel like I was in good hands.

Joe Kerr - December 29, 2024 at 10:49 AM

CH

Tom was my doctor and neighbor! I enjoyed his company at either location, great guy.

Charlie - December 30, 2024 at 01:35 PM

BG

Friends for about 50 years. Family gatherings, golf trips, Vegas and Bahamas and about a hundred rounds of golf..I was ecstatic the 3 times I beat him out of 5 bucks. Nonstop jokes some funny some.?? Always fun! Our great family doc for decades. Tom, you will be missed

Bob Gammon - January 01, 2025 at 12:46 PM