



Dr. David Andrew Reifsteck

March 9, 1948 - June 29, 2012

David Andrew Reifsteck, "Dr. R", 64, was born in Elizabeth, Illinois to David and E'von Reifsteck. After high school David joined the Navy and served his country in Vietnam. He then went on to study at the University of Nebraska and received a Bachelor of Arts, a Bachelor of Science and a Doctorate in Dentistry. In 1975 he married Mary Wilson and in 1979 they moved to Muskogee to establish a dental practice and raise three daughters. In 1999 David married Rebecca Rhodes Whitaker adding a son and daughter to the family. Over the years came the addition of three son-in-laws and the blessing of 5 grandchildren. A passionate outdoorsman David was an avid fisherman, hunter and golfer...not to mention a champion chocolate chip cookie maker! A gifted and compassionate dentist for 32 years David loved his profession, practice and patients. David had a strong faith and applied it every day touching many lives along his path. His greatest gift was his larger than life heart and how he gave it fully and freely to his family and friends. The grace he showed in all areas of his life is difficult to relay. He will be greatly missed.

David is survived by his loving family; wife, Rebecca Reifsteck of the home; children; Heidi Reifsteck-Berry and husband Burl of Tahlequah, Oklahoma, Lyndee Reifsteck-Ailshie and husband Jeffrey of Fort Gibson, Oklahoma, Angie Reifsteck-Meadors and fiancé Jeremy Ragsdale of Muskogee, Oklahoma, Benjamin Whitaker of Canon City, Colorado, and Emily Whitaker of the home; grandchildren, Blake Berry and Hope Berry of Tahlequah,

Oklahoma, Layne Ailshie of Fort Gibson, Oklahoma, Avery Meadors and Alexa Meadors of Muskogee, Oklahoma; and numerous beloved friends and patients.

The family request that memorial contributions be made to Camp Barnabas in care of BancFirst, 2400 Old Shawnee Road, Muskogee, Oklahoma 74403.

Memorial service will be 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 3, 2012 at Boulevard Christian Church with Mr. Steve Moss and Mr. Tim Salters officiating.

Previous Events

Service

JUL 3. 10:00 AM (CT)

Boulevard Christian Church
1700 W. Shawnee
Muskogee, OK 74401

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. David Andrew Reifsteck*

October 23, 2023 at 09:38 AM



“ *Doctor Reifsteck was my dentist when I moved back to Oklahoma in the early 80s. I really liked him and he understood my hesitancy with dentists. He will be missed. God Bless him and his family. Mrs. Gene Gore.*

Mrs. Gene (Schmidgall) Gore - July 12, 2012 at 09:35 AM



“ *We are blessed to have known Dr. Reifsteck's giving heart. He provided free dentistry to low-income, uninsured Oklahomans through D-DENT for 17 years. Any time anyone needed help with their oral health, Dr. Reifsteck would always say yes. He helped so many Oklahomans regain their smiles. Thank you Dr. Reifsteck for all that you did for those in need. We are forever grateful. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your loved ones.*

Shirley, Barbara and Cindy @ D-DENT. - July 10, 2012 at 02:00 PM



“ *I worked with Dr R back in the early 80"s. He was a great Boss not to mention he was a great Dentist. I really enjoyed working with him. He will greatly be missed. Pray going up for the family. Genelle Heslar Wilkeson*

Genelle Wilkeson - July 06, 2012 at 07:57 PM

BV

“ I have precious memories of my sister Miley and I swimming in Dr. R's pool with Lyndee and Angie when we were little. What really stands out to me, though, is the way he was with his girls. I don't think I've ever met a more affirming and affectionate daddy. I didn't understand it at the time, but now that I've got girls of my own, I completely recognize the magnitude of how he poured into his girls' lives. Heidi, Lyndee, and Angie, you are blessed. You were raised by a Godly man who adored you and made sure that you knew it every day. I can't think of a better gift or a better legacy to leave behind.

-Becca (Turnbull) Van Valkenburg

Becca V.V. - July 04, 2012 at 08:46 PM

RE

“ Heidi, Randy and I send our prayers to you and the family. Your dad is in gods hands which are great hands to be in.

Randy & Laura Ellis

Randy & laura ellis - July 03, 2012 at 06:33 PM

EA

“ Dr R. touched so many lives and such a good person. We will always have fond memories of him. Our hearts are saddened by a wonderful man. Our prayers are with his loved ones. Rev. Marcus and Naoma Alexander

Elaine Alexander - July 03, 2012 at 03:17 PM

DA

“ My prayers to all family members. I would like to share a memory. I worked for Dr. R years ago as his assistant. He was so good at denistry, and a heart of gold. Every other Thurs he and I would go to Haskell, where he would help lower income, and those who couldn't pay. I had a boyfriend at the time who had a couple of airplanes. On pretty days, he would fly me to work, and Dr. R would pick me up. Then he would return after work and we would fly back to Tahlequah. One day while in Haskell, Dr. R asked me if he thought John would take him up. I said sure. He had never been in a small plane, much less a 1946 Thompson tail dragger, that you had to throw the prop to start it. That day after work, John flew into Haskell, and Dr. R flew with John to Muskogee airport, where I met them with Dr. Rs car. The look on his face when he got out was priceless. He told John "thank you, but never again". John laughed and told him that all the holding on he was doing while flying, wouldn't do him a bit of good. We all laughed, and laughed some more. Well Dr. R, now you have your own wings, which no one deserves more than you. Pick a good spot under the tree of life, and we will see one another again one day soon, and we will laugh about this again. I love you and will miss you.

*Always, your friend
Radene*

Donna Radene Arens - July 03, 2012 at 01:10 PM

RS

“ Thank you, Rebecca, for the kind and gentle care that you and Dr. R gave me. He was so compassionate to me. I credit you and he and your staff with helping me so much in my quest to conquer my fears of "the dentist." He truly was remarkable in connecting with his patients. I will miss his expertise and guidance. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Rebecca B. Smith

Rebecca B. Smith - July 03, 2012 at 11:21 AM

BA

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. Praying for comfort and peace.

Brad and Jenifer Albin - July 03, 2012 at 06:50 AM

MT

Dear Rebecca,

This is Mark D. Tiernan, DMD of Tulsa. I worked in your practice when Dr. Tarr had his hip surgery. I just heard about the news today! I know (as you do too) where David is....rejoicing in Heaven with Jesus and His Heavenly Father. I want to be so sad.....but as when my own mother died and I wanted to grieve and mourn, the Lord would always remind me of how hard my Mom worked for her Reward! She had it!!! And was dancing down the streets of Gold with her Lord. There is a time of grieving of course, but Rebecca, do not let the spirit of Grief over run you. It is a "cousin" of the spirit of fear....which God has not given us.(II Tim 1:7). We are praying for you & your family.

Let us know if there is anything we can do to help.

With sincere condolences,

Mark & Pam Tiernan mdtiernandmd@POL.net

Mark D. & Pamela B. Tiernan - July 06, 2012 at 02:31 PM



“ Our sincere condolences to the entire family. Even though we hadn't seen Dr. "R" for awhile, we hold alot of memories. In 1986, he made a crown for me. I still have it today. He put them in to stay. :) He was my employer a couple times over the years, our Dentist, and a kind, caring person. May God's presence guide you and help you through. Sending our prayers. Glenda Barnes (and Orvil) Houston, TX.

Glenda Barnes - July 02, 2012 at 09:16 PM



“ How does one begin to put into words years of memories and love to such a wonderful man and beautiful family? My heart hurts for your untimely departure, but your time on earth giving so many of us your love, knowledge, and laughter was time well spent and you leave a mark on all of our hearts... your legacy will live on... Thank you for the years of laugh and comfort you gave me and my family in times when we needed it most and you always knew... Lyndee, Angie, Heidi, Ben, and Emily... He was so proud of you all... And his grand abides made his eyes light up with the mention of their names... Rebecca, I know he loved you dearly and I hope God continues to comfort you with in days to come.... I was blessed to have you in my life as we're so many...you were there, video camera in hand making sure I got every moment to cherish on tape as they handed my precious Garrett to me for the first time several hours later in my room full of my family and yours... We will see you again someday with arms open wide and that sweet smile saying "welcome my friends"....until then, thank you for loving us all... I will miss you tremendously... We love you now and always...

Lindsey Orman-Ketcham - July 02, 2012 at 08:37 PM

TK

“ So very sorry to hear of the tragic loss to a kind and gentle Man. I just recently became a patient of Dr. Reifstecks. I am VERY apprehensive when it comes to "going to the dentist" and Dr. Reifsteck picked up on this.

He truly went above and beyond to make me feel at ease. He was one of the kindest people I have met.. I know he will be sorely missed by all the lives he has touched!!! My prayers go out to his family and his staff...

Sincerely,
Teresa King



Teresa King - July 02, 2012 at 06:33 PM

MC

“ To the family of David, Kim and I are greatly saddened to hear of this. We are praying that you will be comforted in this loss. I have a great respect for David. He has been a blessing to my family and I will miss him. I know we will see him again.

Michael Childers

Michael Childers - July 02, 2012 at 06:16 PM

DH

“ Uncle David your the reason my teeth are straight and white. Though I have not seen you for a few years I still cherish the memories.

D'anna Lyne (Reifsteck) Henry - July 02, 2012 at 01:32 PM

KA

“ So sorry to hear of the tragic passing of such a dear friend! After working for Dr. R. off and on over the years, I know how irreplaceable he will be in the office and in the heart. He was so flexible - giving me a 2 hour lunch break to go home and nurse my baby, leave an hour early, and come in an hour late, for the same reason! The office was like a family, with Dr. R. evolving into the "Grandpa." So many good memories. My heart aches for the family. We are praying for and grieving with you. May you find refuge under the shadow of the Almighty, knowing He will be your fortress in time of trouble (Psalm 91).

Kim Price Allison - July 02, 2012 at 12:19 PM

SL

“ I was Dr. Reifsteck's patient in 1983. He gave me a beautiful smile - I will always remember that he made it happen. Sending prayers to surround all of you at this time.
Sara Beth Kochell Lytle

Sara Beth Kochell Lytle - July 02, 2012 at 11:41 AM

ER

“ Evelyn S Reifsteck sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. David Andrew Reifsteck



Evelyn S Reifsteck - July 02, 2012 at 11:29 AM

ER

“ i am so sorry for your loss. my heart goes out to you david was very good to our family i,m his sister-in-law bunny he

sent his brother mark to the lord with a lovely speech i will never forget now he his with him my prayers go out to the family Evelyn Reifsteck (Bunny)



Evelyn S Reifsteck - July 02, 2012 at 11:24 AM

DD

“ My wife and I were so sorry to learn about the untimely death Friday evening. I had the privilege of working side by side as a dentist with David for several years . He was an outstanding dentist who always put the comfort and well being of his patients as his highest priority . We offer our sincere condolences to David's family and friends . Dr. Edward Tarr and Judy

Daniel Edward Tarr D.D.S. - July 02, 2012 at 10:05 AM

SJ

“ My heart goes out to Rebecca and the entire family. Dr. Reifsteck was a great dentist who loved his family with all his heart and soul. He will be greatly missed but never forgotten. Wishing you strength at this difficult time.



Sherri Jackson - July 02, 2012 at 09:08 AM

AR

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



Angie Reifsteck-Meadors - July 01, 2012 at 11:44 PM

AR

“ *Daddy- Theres not a minute that goes by that I dont think of the sayings and the things you would do. You left way to soon and sudden and I know your with our Heavenly Father but I would give anything to have you back.....kiss my cheek when you greet and leave me.....call my daughter Lil PAYBACK.....say Angie Katherine.....forget things....loose your phone or keys..... and most of all to walk me down the aisle at my wedding a friend made it very clear to me today that you will be the wings on my back that day and that YOU will be giving me away. I wont ever say goodbye but daddy I love you so much and I know you will be waiting at the gates with your arms wide open to hold me again. We love and miss you so much*

Angie Reifsteck-Meadors - July 01, 2012 at 11:36 PM

JM

I was a patient of Dr R for almost 10 years..He treated me very well and I am grateful for his integrity ,kindliness and skill.Jean McMahan

Jean McMahan - July 05, 2012 at 02:07 PM