



Dr. R. Stephen Burns

JAN 18, 1945 - MAR 18, 2019



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Obituary

The sweetest, kindest, most gentle veterinarian left for heaven to love the fur babies there. Dr. R. Stephen Burns passed away Monday, March 18, 2019.

His love for animals was overshadowed only by his love for friends and family; especially his wife of 53 years (or 371 “dog years”), Rama, son Matt, sweet pup Cooper and his adopted children Nikki & Chris Fleenor.

During his years of practice, he served on the Tennessee Veterinary Ethics Board. He gave free veterinary care to licensed wildlife rehab facilities, acted as an officer in the state KVMA, and was recognized by nationally-renowned artist Guy Coleach for his volunteer work with wildlife. Dr. Burns was a lifetime member of the AVMA, a community volunteer; and, until his health prohibited, he was active as a proud Rotarian.

Adding to the joy in his life was his brother, Timothy (& Trish) Burns; sisters-in-law, Norma (& Paul) Kuisle, and Marion (& Tom) Culberson; brother-in-law, John Beaty; nieces & nephews Susan, Cindy, Greg, Barbie, Rachel, Tom, Carl, Chris, David, and Cheryl (as well as their respective spouses); as well as several great and great-great nieces & nephews.

Dr. Burns' staff at Animal Hospital meant SO much to him. They were his support team, and they, too, were his family. His pet parents also meant the world to him. The family wishes to extend special thanks to Dr. Kaye Busler and Dr. Andrew Kruer.

A memorial reception will be held at Animal Hospital (1130 W. Main Street - Morristown) on Sunday, March 31st from 2PM to 4PM.

Those who may have stories to share are encouraged to write them down to be given to Dr. Burns' family.



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Condolences may also be signed online at www.brownfuneralhomenewport.com

Brown Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Dr. Burns.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Dr. R. Stephen Burns, please visit our floral store.



Tribute Wall

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KG

Kimberly Gouse posted:

A candle was lit in remembrance

March 30 at 11:37 AM

KG

Kimberly Gouse posted:

Truly an inspiration and a wonderful man. I will always have a place in my heart for him. Best sense of humor, and a caring soul. Rest in peace, Dr. Burns

March 30 at 11:35 AM

ES

Expression Of Sympathy posted:

A Spring's Bounty Basket was sent by Jim and Barbara Johnson on March 22, 2019

March 22 at 10:26 AM

DH

Donna L. Hartman posted:

Dr. Burns was unquestionably one of the kindest persons I've ever met. His wisdom and compassion will long be remembered.

March 22 at 9:58 AM

ES

Expression Of Sympathy posted:

A Palm Plant was sent on March 22, 2019 With Sympathy, Chris, Kristin, Jacob, Mia and Sami Beaty

March 22 at 8:13 AM



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SB

Sandi Baron posted:

I extend my sincere condolences to Steve's family. I went to Franklin High School with Steve and enjoyed his humor and kindness throughout our schooling. In those days, we sat alphabetically in every class. He and I were always beside or behind each other. He entertained me through many classes with his quick wit or joke of the day. We all loved Steve because he was always available. He stopped what he was doing to hear what we were saying or doing. Through the years, his love of animals ended up being his career and life. He loved his work and it showed. I will miss my emails of jokes that I would find unexpectedly in my mail. He was faithful to attend our reunions with the help of his endearing wife Rama and other friends, who willingly helped him move around and talk to all his past friends. He touched many lives and will be remembered in our hearts for his love and caring demeanor. You will be missed but you made footprints in my heart for a lifetime.

March 20 at 7:44 PM

LA

Linda Harness Ayer posted:

Rama -so sorry to hear this-- he had just called me-- I have such great memories of our high school years and we were so looking forward to coming to see you guys in September--my prayers for you and everyone--I know the dogs in heaven are happ

March 20 at 5:46 PM

BO

Bo posted:

I am deeply sorry for your loss. May you find comfort in the promise held out to us in God's word at John 5:28, 29 And your precious memories.

March 20 at 3:45 PM

ES

Expression Of Sympathy posted:

A Forest Fresh was sent by Lara, Eirene, and Stella on March 20, 2019

March 19 at 8:51 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring R. by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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