



## Dr. Robert S. Hunt

July 17, 2010

Robert Skerlock Hunt, M.D., 73, a renowned and beloved general surgeon, died July 17, 2010, at Southeast Missouri Hospital in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. He was born on June 11, 1937 in Kansas City, Missouri, son of James Bender and Jane Murray (Skerlock) Hunt, who preceded him in death. He and Helen Sue Bess were married June 5, 1959 at the First Baptist Church in Cape Girardeau. Dr. Hunt attended Cape Central High School, graduating as valedictorian in 1955. He was elected Governor of Missouri Boy Scouts State in 1954 and was a guard for the State Championship basketball team of that same year. He received his Bachelor of Science degree, graduating Magna Cum Laude, from Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri in 1959. He received his Doctorate of Medicine, with Alpha Omega Alpha honors, from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri, June 10, 1963. He completed his internship and residency at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri in 1968. Dr. Hunt was certified by the American Board of Surgery, April 14, 1969. In service to his country, Dr. Hunt was Chief of Surgery and Professional Services at the 27th Surgical Hospital in Chu Lai, Vietnam, from 1969-1970. He was promoted to the rank of Major and received the Bronze Star for meritorious service. In 1970, Dr. Hunt joined the Cape Girardeau Surgical Clinic. He served as President of the Surgical Clinic for many years and through his innovative leadership, the Cape Girardeau Breast Care Center was established in 1995. In July of 2007, in recognition of his commitment to women's breast health, the Robert S. Hunt, M.D. Breast Care

& Diagnostic Center was established in his name. Dr. Hunt served as President of the Missouri Chapter of the American College of Surgeons from 1981 to 1983. His professional achievements include: Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, Member of the American Medical Association, Member of the Missouri State Medical Association, Founding Member of the American Society of Breast Surgeons, and Member of the American Society of Breast Disease. Dr. Hunt's life is celebrated for his exemplary and devoted service to the regional medical community for almost 40 years. Physician to tens of thousands, he has given countless hours of highly regarded service to the Medical Staffs at both Southeast Missouri Hospital and Saint Francis Medical Center. He has served as President of the Medical Staff and Chair of the Department of Surgery at Saint Francis Medical Center and as Chief of the Surgery Department at Southeast Missouri Hospital. He has headed numerous other committees at both hospitals. He was instrumental in the formation of the Southeast Hospital Regional Cancer Center, chairing the Cancer Committee at Southeast from 1975-1980. Up to the time of his death, he was a member of the Board of Trustees of Southeast Missouri Hospital. Dr. Hunt epitomized the role model of a physician and surgeon. His surgical skills were extraordinary and he held himself and those around him to the highest standard. He took enormous pride in the accomplishments of his children and grandchildren, who fondly referred to him as "Pop." He was an avid reader, traveler, and loved fishing (actually, just catching). He had a fantastic sense of humor and loved to laugh, share wine with his friends, and engage in friendly debates. His greatest joy was spending time with his family, especially with his wife and best friend, "Susie." He was known for his love of family and friends, and his compassion, kindness, intelligence, integrity, humanity, perseverance, humility and patience. Dr. Hunt is survived by his wife, Sue Bess Hunt; his children, Lynn Hunt Kosup and husband Kris, of Frontenac, Missouri; and Dr. Steven Robert Hunt and wife Mai, of Ladue, Missouri; his five grandchildren, Hayden, Andrew, and Jordan Hunt, and Steven and Katherine Kosup; and his brother-in-law, James William Bess III and wife Jan, of Oneonta, Alabama.

Visitation will be held at Centenary United Methodist Church , Tuesday, July 20th, between 4 and 8 p.m. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, July 21st, at 11 a.m. at Centenary United Methodist Church. Interment will be at Memorial Park in Cape Girardeau. Pallbearers will be Dr. Don Edwards, Dr. Tom Harte, Dr. Ed Noffel, Dr. Ray Ritter, Jerry Stone, and Rocky Wilferth. Honorary Pallbearers will be Dr. Jon Foley, Dr. Frank McGinty, Dr. Ron Richmond, Dr. Joe McCadams, Dr. Ray Silliman, and Dr. John Moll. Memorial donations may be made to Centenary United Methodist Church, Southeast Missouri Hospital, and St. Francis Medical Center. Loved by everyone who knew him, he will be remembered as a devoted and loving husband, father, and grandfather and as an incredible friend and healer to many.

# Tribute Wall

EM

“ TO: Dr. Hunt's Family: Such a sad loss for Cape Girardeau. I remember Dr. Hunt and Dr. David Clark when they started practicing in Cape. There are no words to say how generous, confident, caring and downright super loving person he was. I shall miss him the same as David Clark, C. John Ritter, and Tony Zoffuto, my friends. Comfort and strength to the Hunt Family. Sincerely, Edna B. Murphy

Edna B. Murphy - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ Please know that your family will be in our thoughts.

Paul David Pettigrew - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ Sue and Bob's entire family: The news arived here today. We are so sorry. We have lost an accomplished colleague and a great friend. Bob was one of the most distinguished yet supportive members of the medical community when I(Bill) arrived in 1982. He continued to be a major influence in all aspects of my professional and social life in Cape Girardeau. He was truly a giant of a man in so many ways. I will miss him and remember him often. Bill Thorpe

Dr . William and Judy Thorpe - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Sue,Lynn and Steve, Please know if there were any way possible we would have been with you. Beverly said service was wonderful. What a terrible loss for all of you and Cape. Love to all Jackie

Jackie Clark-Otto - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ Dear Mrs. Hunt and family, On July 17, 1979 (31 years to the day of his passing), Dr. Hunt performed colon surgery on my mother. She and I have always been so grateful to him for his unsurpassed knowledge as a surgeon as well as his unique qualities of compassion. Only through God's love and Dr. Hunt's professional skills did Mother make a full and healthy recovery. We are so deeply sorry for your personal loss of husband, father and grandfather. And, our community and entire region feels a great sense of loss as well in his absence as a professional, mentor to many and wonderful human being. Our prayers are with you. Most Sincerely,  
Linda and Juanita Loveless

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**Linda Loveless** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Kris, Lynn & Family: My sincere condolences to you and your family. May God be With You and Keep you in His Prayers. Judy

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**Judith A. Martin** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Thanks to Dr Hunt, my wife is cancer free. We saw him as an outstanding Doctor and human being. He will be sorely missed by all who were ever associated with him. God Bless the entire Hunt family.

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**Al Farless** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Hello. I send this in humility in hearing about the passing of Dr Hunt. There are many thanks to be presented to him. March 14th 1983 he was my Doctor. He performed surgery on me and it turned out to be cancerous. There were several other surgeries that followed. He was a good Doctor. His care was great. I am now able to say I am a 27 year cancer survivor. So there are many thanks to be offered to him in his care. He was a good man and a great Doctor. Sincerely; Lloyd Douglas Cotner

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**Lloyd Douglas Cotner** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AK

“ I'm so sorry to read of Bob's death. I always thought he was such a great guy, even when we were growing up. I always associated him with his next door neighbor Bill Friday, who was in my class. Bob and I last talked at one of the last 50's reunion. Very enjoyable. (Sue, my earliest memories of you are from being with my friends from the Rose St.'gang' and also your grandmother lived on my street, Bessie St. after I graduated from college.) I'm so sorry you've lost such an admirable guy. Anita Allen Klasing

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**Anita Allen Klasing** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ He was a man that earned my trust. His passing is a loss to all.

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**Bob Horvatich** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ I was greatly saddened to read of the passing of Dr. Hunt. On Dec. 7, 1969, I was wounded while an infantryman near Chu Lai in Vietnam, and was flown to the 27th Surgical Hospital where I first met Dr. Hunt. Upon meeting him for presurgery evaluation, I knew immediately that I was in good hands. 10 years later, I cut my finger in a chainsaw and needed stitches. Dr. Hunt and I reminisced about Vietnam after he stitched me up. I always wanted to reconnect with Dr. Hunt, but also wanted to respect his privacy and free time. On behalf of all the wounded (and there were many) from Co. B, 1/46, 196th Infantry Division who were treated at the 27th Surgical Hospital in Chu Lai in 1969-1970, I want to say, "Good job, Dr. Hunt, good job." We were indeed in good hands.

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**John Fred Seabaugh** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ Always remembered by the kindness he showed to the pediatric patients at SFMC. A very kind man, he will be missed.

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**Patricia Martin** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ I remember Dr. Hunt when I was a very new nurse at St. Francis. He was my favorite. Always so kind to his patients and staff. I will always remember him . . . a well dressed man who always smelled so good! And what a great sense of humor he had. I'm so sorry for your loss. This world has lost an incredible man.

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**Cindy Schnurbusch** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Your family were so kind to Joe and me. God Bless you.

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**Barbara & Joe Seabaugh** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *Mrs. Hunt and family, my sincere thoughts and prayers to all of you.*

Rich Summers - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ *Steve - Your Dad was a great man. So sorry for your loss. Take care. Kevin*

Kevin Dry - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ *Dear Sue, Lynn and Kris, Steven and Kat, Steve and Mai, Hayden, Andrew and Jordan, My deepest sympathy and love to each of you. You are family and you always were and are loved. God bless you. Love, Trula Guiou Hunt*

Trula Guiou Hunt - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ *Steve, I'm so sorry to hear about the passing of your father. I still carry great memories of playing at your house when we were kids. Take care, best wishes. Steve M.*

Steve Menard - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ *Steve, Our deepest sympathy on the passing of your father. Lonnie and Toni Wilke*

Lonnie and Toni Wilke - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ I heard of Bob's passing from a Cape friend. There are fond memories from our Franklin grade school days with basketball, scouts and weekend play. He was a natural leader and had compassion for others. I remember being impressed by his comments when he accepted the Governor's position at MO Boy's State in Warrensburg. With heartfelt sympathy for this loss.

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**Donald Wachter** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ To Mrs. Sue Hunt and Family, My heart goes out to all of you. I have been privileged to know Dr. Hunt for the past 30 plus years. He was not only a wonderful surgeon for my mother and I, but also a special friend. Whenever I saw him in the office, hospital or somewhere in town, he would always stop and chat and would call me by name. He truly touched the hearts of everyone. I pray God's loving arms and His strength will surround you and comfort you. My thoughts and prayers are with you. God Bless you all, Karen Webb McClendon

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**Karen Webb McClendon** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ i just wanted to say that Dr. Hunt took care of my husband back in 1986 after a mining accident. he was an awesome doctor and a great person! he always remembered me when i would see him at the store or anywhere else. he wasnt ever my doctor but he was always my favorite!

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**rhonda todd holshouser** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EW

“ Sue, I send you my deepest sympathy, may wonderful memories, and the love of friends and family sustain you. And may God hold you in the light. Emily

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**Emily Simpson Wigger** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ I would like to extend my deepest condolences to the Hunt family. I worked in the operating room with Dr. Hunt for several years.He was a fine man and and excellent surgeon. He will be missed a lot. God Bless. Sincerely , Angela Poe, RN

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**Angela Poe** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Dear Sue and family, Just heard about Bob's passing..I was SO sorry to hear such sad news.. Wanted you to know that we will be thinking of you and remembering you in our prayers as you go through this hard time in life.. I know you and the children/g'children have wonderful memories.. We'll miss him at our reunions too.. Many Hugs, Judy

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**Judy Bollinger Smith** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CK

“ WITH SYMPATHY. CAROLYN KINDER RN

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**CAROLYN KINDER** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ Sue, So sorry to hear of your loss. Sincerely, Kael

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**Kael Kirkpatrick** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

C'

“ Sue, Chuck and I are so sorry for your loss of Bob. Remebmer the happy times. Cleo

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**Cleo Ticer Slagle '56** - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TD

“ I just learned today of Dr. Hunt's passing and it saddens me so. I want to let his family know how important he was to our family. He was my mother's and my doctor and FRIEND. He was truely a man of compassion. I remember when my Dad had surgery and he saw us in the waiting room. He came right over to us and sat down to inquire why we were there. He brought us through breast cancer twice with Mom and once with me (10 years ago). I know he meant a lot to many...patients, coworkers, family and friends and will truely be missed. He was an extraordinary man. I feel priviledged to have known him. May God continue to bless all that he did for the health field and the people it will effect. And may God bless his family as they go day to day!

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**Terri Dover** - March 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM