



James A. Dinkins

June 18, 1937 - October 29, 2018

Dr. James Allen Dinkins, 81, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri died Monday, October 29, 2018 at Southeast Hospital.

He was born June 18, 1937 in Yuma, Tennessee to Fred R. and Lillian Hopper Dinkins.

He and Betsy L. Gateley were married August 14, 1993 at First Baptist Church in Cape Girardeau.

He served in the Army National Guard.

He was a graduate of Trezevant High School in Tennessee. He received his undergraduate from Union University in Jackson, Tennessee. He attended University of Tennessee at Memphis Medical School, where he did an internship and residency. He started practicing pediatric medicine in Cape Girardeau in 1967 until his retirement in 1999.

He was served as a state consultant on Missouri Department of Health to improve nurseries for newborns state wide. He was a pediatric consultant to Cape Girardeau school system and Cape Girardeau County Health Department. He was a member of Physician Association at Saint Francis. He was a fellow of American Academy of Pediatrics, member of Cape County

Medical Society, Missouri State Medical Association, AMP on staff at both hospitals, Chairman of Pediatrics of both hospitals and member of Governor's committee on youth and children state committee.

His hobbies include woodworking, genealogy and gardening.

Survivors include his wife, Betsy L. Dinkins of Cape Girardeau; three daughters, Laura Norman of Cape Girardeau, Rebecca Hargrove of Cape Girardeau and Lilabeth Frye of Champaign, Illinois; and eight grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Jonathan Dinkins; and one daughter and son-in-law, Laura and Curt Dye.

Visitation will be from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM on Saturday, November 3, 2018 at Ford and Sons Mount Auburn Funeral Home.

Memorial service will follow at 1:00 PM at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be given to the Humane Society of Southeast Missouri or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com.

Ford & Sons Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 3. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Memorial Service

NOV 3. 1:00 PM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall

SF

“ *Dr. Dinkins took care of my foster children. I fell in love with how loving and caring he was with those babies. So when my babies came I ask him to care for them. All my babies were early, he was a life saver. Could not have ask for a better doctor for children. He will be missed.* ”

Sharon k Ford - November 03, 2018 at 10:08 PM

MN

“ *So sorry for your loss. He was a terrific Grandfather, and I'm sure your children will have many good memories.* ”

Michael K Norman - November 03, 2018 at 09:22 AM

BP

“ *Jim was a cousin to my husband Dan Perry. Your family are in my thoughts and prayers.* ”



Beth Perry - November 02, 2018 at 04:42 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of James A. Dinkins.* ”



November 02, 2018 at 10:33 AM



“ So very sorry- he was a good man and was very kind! One of my good memories was when Dr. Dinkins used let us fish at his home with our kids and while there, I got a treble hook embedded in my thumb, really bad. I thought that I would have to go sit in the ER for hours until they could remove it. He was fortunately home at the time. He pushed it through for me (there was no way I could do it), he then cut it off, patched me up and I was back to fishing! He was always very kind to us all. I am sad for those closest to him as I am sure he will be missed.

William Norman - November 02, 2018 at 08:14 AM

LN

I forgot about that. Thanks, Bill, for reminding me.

laura norman - November 02, 2018 at 06:02 PM

DO

“ It would be, without a doubt, an understatement to say that "James Allen", as I have always known him , has been one of the very best friends I could have ever asked for.

Cousin by birth, he was much more than that to me, more like the "big brother" I never had. From my very earliest memories as a child, he & his wonderful family have been a big part of my life, sharing the very happiest of moments one can experience, as well as those inevitable difficult times. My late Mom & Dad, sister Betty, as well as my wonderful wife Susan all loved him, & cherished the great times we had together.

Always there when we needed him, he had a gentle, sage wisdom, & sweet, patient nature about him that I always attributed to his precious parents, Lillian & Fred. He was humble in spite of his noteworthy achievements, & always strove to use his considerable skills as a physician to help others in their time of need.

I cherish so much the memory of our times together, sitting on the creek bank fishing for bream, walking through the woods with him pointing out different types of trees, flowers & all manner of animal life, just enjoying all the beauty that nature provides.

He had a great love for Betsy, his family, extended family, & the history of our forebears. We made numerous trips to family cemeteries & visited distant relatives who helped fill in the "gaps" of our knowledge of our ancestors. He was always encouraging me, in times of difficulty to continuously strive to be the best I could be, to never settle for mediocrity.

Truly a Gentleman in every way, James Allen enriched the lives of so many around him.

To paraphrase Henry David Thoreau, "The death of a great friend leaves us an additional

*burden, to fulfill the promise of our friend's life, as well as our own."
What a great privilege
that daunting undertaking will be!*

Don R Hopper OD

Don R Hopper OD - November 02, 2018 at 06:36 AM

LN

Thank you, Don.

laura norman - November 02, 2018 at 05:03 PM

DG

“*Dr. Dinkins saved my life when I was 11 years old. I had gotten a rare disease that was caused from strep throat. I was admitted into the hospital and as soon as Dr. Dinkins checked me over, he told my Dad what he thought I had. I will always remember how thankful we were to have figured out what was wrong with me. I never had any long term effects from it. I'm sending much prayers and love that God will give you comfort knowing he's now watching over all of you. Heaven must have needed him for a special case!!*

Dayneen Glastetter - November 01, 2018 at 02:58 PM

MK

“*Dear Betsy, I just heard from Melba today and wanted to send ny sympathies. It is never easy loosing those we love. Wish I could be there with you. Though many years have gone by we had such a special friendship. Take care of yourself. Miriam*

Miriam Kerns - November 01, 2018 at 11:14 AM

LC

“ *Love Leah, Claire and Catherine purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of James A. Dinkins.*



Love Leah, Claire and Catherine - November 01, 2018 at 03:51 AM



“ *Celestial Love was purchased for the family of James A. Dinkins.*



October 31, 2018 at 10:42 PM

TT

“ *Tammy Terry lit a candle in memory of James A. Dinkins*



Tammy Terry - October 31, 2018 at 02:26 PM