



Dr William James Fink

JUN 24, 1917 - MAY 24, 2009



Scan to Visit

Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



Dr William James Fink

JUN 24, 1917 - MAY 24, 2009

Dr. William James Fink died on May 24 at home in Fayetteville, AR. He was born in 1917 in Washington, DC, the son of Gail and Elizabeth Thomas Fink. He graduated with an AB degree from DePauw University in 1939, and obtained his M.D. degree from George Washington University School of Medicine in Washington, DC in 1944. Between college and medical school he worked from 1939-1941 as a Document Examiner in the Technical Laboratory of the FBI, Washington, DC. Following a year of rotating internship, a six-month residency in anesthesia and four years of surgical residency he became Board Certified in Surgery in 1954. Dr. Fink moved to Fayetteville in 1951, and he was appointed Chief, Surgical Service at the VA Medical Center in 1953, which position he held until his retirement in 1979. Dr. Fink was a member of the American College of Surgeons, the Western Surgical Association, Southwestern Surgical Congress, and the Association of VA Surgeons (serving as Treasurer 1977-1978). He was listed in Who's Who in Arkansas, Who's Who in Government, Who's Who in Medicine, Who's Who in America, and Who's Who in the World. From 1967 to 1980 he advanced from Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery to Full Clinical Professor of Surgery at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock. He served as a Captain in the Army Air Corps 1946-1948 and was Chief of Surgery at Tinker Field, Oklahoma City and Chief of Surgery at Bolling Field in Washington, DC. Dr. Fink was a charter member of Trinity United Methodist Church, Fayetteville, AR, a member and Past President of the Exchange Club of Fayetteville, a member of the Sigma Nu social fraternity and Phi Chi medical fraternity. Following retirement he was active in church and civic organizations and with his hobby of model railroading. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Kay Kerlin Fink who died in 1985, by a son Bruce in 1978, and a son William, Jr. in 1986. He is survived by his son Robert and his wife Cathy of Fayetteville, his son Barry and his wife Deborah of Eureka Springs, and by his daughter Barbara Leonard and her



Obituary

Dr William James Fink

JUN 24, 1917 - MAY 24, 2009

husband Phillip Leonard of Fayetteville. Also surviving are his second wife, Arline Peeler Fink, whom he married in 1992, eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. A private burial service was held at Fairview Cemetery in Fayetteville. A memorial service will be held at Nelson-Berna Funeral Home at 2:00 PM, Wednesday, May 27, 2009. To sign the online guest book go to www.nelsonberna.com



Tribute Wall

Dr William James Fink

JUN 24, 1917 - MAY 24, 2009

CF

Camille Lierly Vest (Friend) posted:

One of my first outings after returning to my home town was an Exchange Club gathering. There I met Dr. Fink and Arline. They were both so friendly and caring. Dr. Fink told my Dad that I needed a medical alert because my hypoparathyroidism was a serious condition. The next morning he was at my Dad's house with an order form for the medical alert. They just don't make people like this today and I'm so glad they were part of my life for awhile.

August 30 at 8:50 AM

AG

April Crawford (Arline Fink's Granddaughter) posted:

Bill was a wonderful person. He always asked how my job was going. That I will always remember.

August 30 at 8:50 AM

DF

Dr. David Grambort (Friend) posted:

The VA patients and the physicians (myself included), owe alot to Dr. Fink for his services to the veterans.He will be missed.

August 30 at 8:50 AM

PN

Pam Kennan (Neighbor) posted:

We will miss him.

August 30 at 8:50 AM

AA

Amy Morton (Acquaintance) posted:

Clearly, Dr. Fink was a gifted and accomplished man. I knew him to be kind, gracious, quick witted, interested, and independent right to the end.I met Dr. Fink through my friend, his daughter, Barbara, and later came to know his son Barry.While my husband, Bo, did not know Dr. Fink, he certainly knew about him through his independent friendship with Barbara and her late brother Billy, and he speaks well of him as well.I am sad today, but grateful that my life included a healthy dose of Dr. William Fink, whom I will long remember.

August 30 at 8:50 AM



Tribute Wall

Dr William James Fink

JUN 24, 1917 - MAY 24, 2009

LF

Linda Armstrong (Friend Of Family) posted:

I met Bob's father only once, but remember that he was very gracious and made me feel welcome. I'm sorry to hear of his passing, but know that he is at peace. My thoughts are with his family at this time as I know that he will be greatly missed. God bless.

August 30 at 8:50 AM

MG

Marin Broulliard (Grandfather) posted:

Bill was my Grandfather after Granddaddy passed away. He was the best and most influential man in my teenage years. We spent more days than I can remember playing ping pong in the basement for hours at a time. I'd take naps on that long comfy couch (the one Grandmamma made him throw away) in the afternoon. At night he'd sneak into the kitchen and make us hot fudge sundaes (knowing he wouldn't get in trouble if I was eating one with him :)). He meant more to me than I can ever express and I am so blessed to have known him. I'll miss his dirty jokes...especially the BLT joke! I'll miss giving him a hard time...he LOVED that! I'll miss sitting in the kitchen at the table just talking. We could talk about anything, it was great. I miss you Bill and I love you.

August 30 at 8:50 AM

DR

Debbie Mccoy-Reed posted:

My life was enriched when I became part of "POPS" family, he gave me love and guidance for many years. Although I have not seen him for a long time, I would often think of him and that would put a smile in my heart. He was loved and respected by so many people, and will be greatly missed. My thoughts are with the family.

August 30 at 8:50 AM

RT

Rebecca Taylor posted:

To the Fink Family: Pop was truly a great man, and one I will never forget. My thoughts and prayers are with you all...-Rebecca

August 30 at 8:50 AM



Tribute Wall

Dr William James Fink

JUN 24, 1917 - MAY 24, 2009

MF

Mary Lou Dixon-Tankersley (Friend) posted:

I worked as an RN in surgery with Dr. Fink in the 1950's. He was an excellent surgeon and friend. I enjoyed knowing Kay and all the children. They visited at my home in Dutch Mills. I know he will be missed. Sincerely, Lou

August 30 at 8:50 AM

GW

Glenn Wandrey posted:

My sincere condolences on the loss of your Father, as I am keeping you in my thoughts and in my prayers.

August 30 at 8:50 AM



Memories only last if you share them

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



Scan to Visit

