



# **Jerry Allen Truitt**

FEB 2, 1941 - JUN 7, 2015



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**MEMORIAL PARK**  
Funeral Home & Cemetery

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## **Jerry Allen Truitt**

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**D**r. Jerry Allen Truitt, D.V.M. passed away June 7, 2015, in Memphis, Tennessee after fighting a three year battle with cancer. He was born February 2, 1941 in Crittenden County Kentucky and raised in Owensboro, Kentucky. Jerry graduated from Daviess County High School and studied at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green. He received a four-year scholarship from the University of Kentucky to Auburn University to obtain a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine. Jerry graduated from Auburn in June 1966. After graduation, he served as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force stationed in Blytheville, Arkansas as the Base Veterinarian from 1966-1968. After leaving the Air Force, Dr. Truitt resided and practiced Veterinary Medicine in Shelby County for 46 years. He was an active member of Hope Presbyterian since 1997. Dr. Truitt had many successful years as a veterinarian and belonged to the Tennessee Veterinary Association, Memphis Shelby County Veterinary Association, American Veterinary Medical Association, and American Animal Hospital Association. In 1971, he partnered and created a patented instrument to save dogs from heart worms before preventative medicines were available. A highlight of his career was serving as Elvis Presley's veterinarian at his Brooks Road Animal Hospital. He is survived by his children, Tonya Truitt Rochefort (Leonard), Jerry Allen Truitt II (Andrea) and Wesley Chadwick Truitt (Stephanie); his grandchildren, Mary Morgan Truitt, Zoe Matthews Clark, Jerry Allen Truitt III, Madelyn Hughes Truitt, and Amelia Claire Truitt. He is preceded in death by infant daughter, Heather Elise Truitt. He is survived by his siblings, Linda Miller (John), Karen DeWitt (Winson), Paul Truitt (Salvia), Joe Truitt (Susan) and Brenda Jones (Millard). He is preceded in death by his parents, Evans and Mildred McKinley Truitt and brothers, Charles Truitt and Donald Truitt. He leaves behind many nieces and nephews that adored him. The family would like to give a special thank you to Janey Dunlap for being his best friend, as well as, providing him with comfort and loving care these last few years. Visitation



## Obituary

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will be held Wednesday, June 10, 2015 from 11:30-1:00 p.m. and a memorial service will immediately follow at 1 p.m., all at Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family request memorials be sent to Collierville Animal Shelter or Humane Society of Memphis. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery, 5668 Poplar Ave. Memphis, TN 38119, (901) 767-8930, "Behind the Stone Wall."



## Tribute Wall

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KG

**Kate Gray** posted:

What a beautiful and kind spirit. Dr. Truitt was very instrumental in making my new house a loving home. His patience and kindness showed in every aspect of who he was as an individual and also as a loving veterinarian. Truly God, has received one of his own, home. Kate Gray

June 9 at 11:04 AM

ER

**Erin** posted:

My name is Erin Butler, and I worked for Dr. Truitt at Companion Animal Hospital from 2006 to 2007. He was an awesome doctor, plus he was funny, kind, and a great employer. He was a fantastic teacher; he taught me so much about being compassionate, and also just about veterinary medicine while I was working for him. I am grateful to have gotten to know him and learn from him. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family. He will be missed!

June 9 at 5:03 AM

MH

**Marian Hill** posted:

So sad to see that Jerry has passed on. Sympathy and prayers for his family and friends.

June 9 at 3:22 AM

PR

**Priscilla** posted:

This truly saddens my heart. I worked with Dr. Truitt at Fox Ridge and had an opportunity to work with him at his Collierville practice, but ended up moving. I haven't seen him in years, but I remember him as a funny, loving, kind man. My thoughts and prayers are with his family. Priscilla H.

June 8 at 2:59 PM



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SC

**Stephanie Cramer** posted:

We are crestfallen to hear of this news. Dr. Truitt was the veterinarian of our dogs for several years including being the vet of our dog Red who himself had cancer and subsequently congestive heart failure. Dr. Truitt's knowledge base and surgical skills were exemplary and really in our experience without par. Concurrently Dr. Truitt had the values of an old fashioned country doctor. He was selfless, caring, compassionate and humble. There was at least one instance in which I phoned him anxious about Red's health, not knowing how to appraise what I saw. Dr. Truitt spontaneously reacted by coming in on a day off which knocked my socks off and rightly so. (At the time I think he came in to the Collierville office from Mississippi.) He was honorable and honor meant much to him. He was empathic. He was nurturing and he was unfailingly kind He had wonderful people skills and also gained the trust and affection of our dogs. (Our dogs never became upset by the thought of having an appointment with him—even after one of them had had surgery from Dr. Truitt and had to stay in the animal hospital over night. It is telling that none of them would ever be anxious returning after such an experience.) It speaks volumes about the trust that they had. We ourselves trusted Dr. Truitt explicitly. We trusted the level of his professional acumen and experience and we trusted his character and motives. The highest compliment we could ever pay a vet is to think he reminds us of Dr. Truitt. And that is like finding a needle in a haystack. We were greatly blessed and are eternally grateful. Chris and Stephanie Cramer

June 8 at 2:10 PM

AS

**Amy Silberberg** posted:

Dr. Truitt was my vet for 15 years until he retired. He treated all of our pets like family members as they were to us. He was a kind and generous man. I will always remember him fondly.

June 8 at 1:07 PM

GS

**Gail S.** posted:

Gail S. purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Dr. Jerry Allen Truitt.

June 8 at 12:39 PM



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JC

**Jean Cain** posted:

I will always remember how Dr. Truitt was on call to check out any animals that we might find while I was teaching Four Year Old Kindergarten at Trinity Baptist Christian School. He gave us the go ahead to keep Tilly the Turtle and the students took turns taking Tilly home on weekends. He even checked on the chickens that we hatched and was a wonderful Community Helper whenever he was able to visit the classroom. He was greatly admired and respected. My love and prayers to his sweet family. Jean Cain

June 8 at 11:44 AM

AS

**Aleathea Murray & Debbie Sizemore** posted:

Aleathea Murray & Debbie Sizemore purchased the Blooming Garden Basket for the family of Dr. Jerry Allen Truitt.

June 8 at 10:25 AM

LJ

**Leslie Jones** posted:

My condolences to family and friends. I worked for Dr. Truitt for 10 years, when he was at Fox Ridge Animal Hospital. It's been several years now, but the last time I saw him, he tried to get me to come to Collierville and work with him again. So very sad. Great vet, great man. He will be missed.~ Leslie Jones

June 8 at 10:17 AM

RJ

**Rita Jackson** posted:

A very kind and loving man. Always had a smile on his face. He will be surely missed! Sincerely, Rita Jackson

June 8 at 4:34 AM

MP

**Memorial Park** posted:

Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jerry Truitt.

June 7 at 3:56 PM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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