



# **Dr. Oscar Brewster Harrington**

AUG 6, 1926 - JUL 17, 2013



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## **Dr. Oscar Brewster Harrington**

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**D**r. Oscar Brewster Harrington, 86, died peacefully at home surrounded by loving family on July 17, 2013. Born August 6, 1926 in Pine Bluff Arkansas to Ophelia Brewster and Leroy John Harrington, Dr. Harrington leaves behind his bride of 62 years, Barbara, three sons, Brewster (Connie), David and Clayton (Bisha) and their families of 8 grandchildren – Grace(Matt), Josh (Amanda) and Eli (Meghan); Hunter and Savannah; and Jake (Ella), Lauren, Austin (deceased) and Caleb – and 6 great grandchildren. He also leaves behind a brother, Leroy (El Paso), and sister, Nancy Currey (Dallas), many loving nieces, a nephew and a legacy of relationships from different generations and different walks of life – he will be greatly missed. Dr. Harrington served in the US Navy after graduating from Benton (AR) H.S. He went to the University of Arkansas and studied medicine and graduated from the University of Arkansas Medical School where he met and married his bride Barbara Brothers of Little Rock. He was in family practice in Palestine, TX prior to moving to Houston to study General and Thoracic Surgery at Baylor College of Medicine from 1959 – 1964. He was certified with the American Board of Surgery and American Board of Thoracic Surgery. In 2006 he was awarded the Tennessee Outstanding Physician for his leadership and “tremendous contributions” in the field of thoracic and cardiovascular surgery for over 50 years; his accomplishments included being a clinical assistant professor and instructor in Thoracic Surgery at the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center and memberships in American Medical Association, the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation and the Michael DeBakey International Cardiovascular Society. He was also a past President of The Southern Thoracic Surgery Association, the Southern Surgical Society, and the Memphis Heart Association. He also was the Methodist Hospital Foundations Living Award recipient in 1992. Among other accomplishment Dr. Harrington performed the first heart transplant at Methodist Hospital and practiced and grew



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the Heart Institute at Methodist University Hospital for over 40 years. All of those career milestones led to the honor of Methodist University Hospital naming the O. Brewster Harrington Cardiac Clinical Care Unit after him in February 2012. Dr. Harrington was a sportsman enjoying hunting, fishing and canoeing and lived what he preached by keeping active through swimming and golf. He was a past City Champion in handball and over the years loved basketball, football and tennis. A Memorial service will be held on Monday July 22, 2013 at 2:00 at Christ United Methodist Church with the Rev. Dr. Maxie Dunham presiding. Visitation will follow at Christ United Methodist. Memorial contributions may be given to the glory of God to The Methodist Hospital Foundation, The Church Health Center, Christ United Methodist Church or to the ministry of your choice.



## Tribute Wall

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HS

**Hollye Spiotta** posted:

We are so sorry for your loss. Dr. Harrington was a great mentor.Dr. and Mrs. Larry Spiotta (Hollye)

July 22 at 4:59 PM

DA

**Daniel** posted:

West Memphis Steel purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Dr. Oscar Brewster Harrington.

July 22 at 4:04 AM

MP

**Memorial Park** posted:

Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Oscar Brewster Harrington.

July 21 at 7:50 PM

DJ

**D.Johnson** posted:

Please accept my condolences on the loss of your dear loved. Take comfort in knowing that our heavenly father will soon remove all pain, suffering, sorrow, and death! May this promise be of comfort as you gain the strength and inner peace to cope with the days ahead. Revelation 21:3,4  
Philippians 4:13

July 20 at 6:09 AM

KT

**Kimberly Thompson** posted:

One of only 3 people on earth I've ever allowed to call me "Red..." Always pleasant and calm under pressure, Dr. Harrington was a great Cardiovascular Surgeon and made many truly outstanding contributions to the field of Cardiovascular Surgery in Memphis. Originally from Pine Bluff and Little Rock, AR, a graduate of the U of A and UAMS, I've learned Dr. Harrington and his lovely wife Barbara both knew my parents in Little Rock way back when... Dr. Harrington was a truly great, caring and endearing soul with a big heart whose great joys were his family as well as medicine. He was highly respected by all who knew him. Memphis and this world will be a lesser place without him in it, and I shall miss his morning hugs, as will all of us who had the honor and privilege of working beside him and learning from him every day. Godspeed on your new journey and may you rest in peace, Dr. Harrington. Without question, we will all love and miss you always.

July 19 at 6:22 PM



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**Deborah** posted:

Dr Harrington was loved by so many. He exemplified what a physician and a human being should strive to be. He will be missed but his spirit lives on.

July 19 at 5:18 AM



**Carolyn Murray** posted:

Brewster Harrington was a dear person to all who knew him. He was always pleasant, friendly, and caring – even in the toughest times in his own life. Brewster was a great friend. He lived his Christian faith every day with actions and not just words. He loved his wife and family dearly. They were his greatest joy. Brewster made the world a better place, and we will greatly miss him. Sending love and prayers to his family! Seldon & Carolyn Murray

July 18 at 6:12 AM



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

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



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