



George I. Balas, MD

APR 9, 1924 - FEB 7, 2020



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George I. Balas, MD

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George I. Balas, MD, Captain (Ret), USN Medical Corps, age 95, passed away peacefully in Germantown TN, on Friday, February 7, 2020. Dr. Balas was born in Budapest, Hungary, on April 9, 1924, to Magda (Jozsa) Balas and Andrew Balas). He married the love of his life, Mary Evelyn, in 1958. After fighting in the Hungarian Resistance in World War 2, he worked for the US Army as an interpreter in war crimes investigation. He came to the US in 1949, got his undergraduate degree in Chemistry from University of Pennsylvania in 1952 and his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1956. After completing his internship year in Bethlehem, PA, he became a flight surgeon in the US Navy, subsequently becoming an anesthesiologist who pioneered in the area of regional anesthesia. After retiring from the US Navy (Anesthesiology), he had a fulfilling career as an anesthesiologist at the University of Tennessee Hospitals. He loved his America deeply, and was involved with the Association of Naval Aviation, The Retired Officers Association, The Military Order of World Wars, and Forever Young. He loved to travel, and had a lifelong passion for soccer, as a fan and as a player on a community team called “The Misfoots” in the 1980’s. He lived for his family, and not a day went by that he didn’t express his gratitude for his family and his country. If his family needed anything (including the moon), he would do his best to provide it, and then ask “Is there anything else you need?”. He is survived by, and will be forever and deeply missed and honored by, his wife of 61 years (Mary Evelyn), four children: Andrea Balas Weaver (Rick), Lisa Balas Douglas, Mancie Balas Hoesley (Craig), and George A. Balas. He had eight grandchildren: Alexis, Erin, Jackson, Adam, Maggie, Isabella, Sam, and Luke. He had a beloved dog Chloe. His legacy will live on in his family, and in the many anesthesiology residents he taught over the years. There will be a memorial service/celebration of his life, on a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the following charities: The George Balas



Obituary

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Scholarship/care of Association of Naval Aviation/El Dorado Squadron (contact sdcaiviness@juno.com), Forever Young Veterans (P.O. Box 1381, Collierville TN 38027), or The Wounded Warrior Project. His favorite song was Kate Smith's "God Bless America", which expressed his love for his country. Please think of him whenever this song is played.



Tribute Wall

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DB

Doey Barrar posted:

Evelyn & Family, I was so sorry about George. I always enjoyed seeing y'all at the Forever Young meetings & getting my hug from George--I'll miss my hugs from him! My sympathy to you & your family! Thank you for your service, George! With love & prayers, Doey Barrar

March 7 at 9:48 AM

DB

Doey Barrar lit a candle in honor of George .



March 7 at 9:42 AM

KL

Konrad LoebI posted:

George and I arrived in this country around the same time, 70 years ago, and shared many early experiences in Philadelphia. I will never forget a car trip in a 1939 Chrysler with his parents to Niagara Falls, around 1952. Great memories! Our sincere condolences, Konrad and Barbara

February 12 at 12:22 PM

SC

Stephen D Caviness posted:

My favorite memory of "GIB the Hun" was his pride in being an American, a Navy Captain, and a member of the Association of Naval Aviation. His presentation to the ANA, when he spoke of his involvement with the Hungarian underground, was inspirational.

February 9 at 2:20 PM

MB

Myra Wood Bennett posted:

I will forever remember the day Dr. Balas walked Andrea down the aisle to our friend Rick. Dr. Balas was so stately in his uniform and wore it with such great pride. Andrea, I am thinking of you my friend as I know only too well how it feels to lose a father one can be so proud of. Love to you all. Myra Wood Bennett

February 8 at 1:52 PM



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AH

Anne E. Ehrsam-Holland posted:

We are honored to have known Dr. George I. Balas, Captain, USN Medical Corps/Dr. of Anesthesiology, and his wonderful wife Mary Evelyn, through my dear friends of over 35 years, Andrea Balas Weaver and Rick Weaver. As long as I've known him, I did not know, until reading his obituary, that he had been an interpreter for War Crimes investigations after fighting in the Hungarian Resistance, particularly meaningful to me, having spent 30 years in the Army JAGC. A true AMERICAN HERO! HOOAH as we say in the Army! Fair Winds and Following Seas as they say in the Navy. Much love to all of the family, esp. Mary Evelyn, Andrea, Rick, and Maggie! Chuck, Drew, and Annellise Holland/Anne E. Ehrsam-Holland

February 8 at 1:25 PM

RW

Rick Weaver posted:

A great man. A great father-in law. But most importantly a Great Friend!

February 8 at 12:40 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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