



# **Craig Steven Dorko MD**

MAR 1, 1962 - MAR 25, 2021



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**MEMORIAL PARK**  
Funeral Home & Cemetery

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## **Craig Steven Dorko MD**

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**D**r. Craig Steven Dorko transitioned to God on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at Saint Francis Hospital-Bartlett.

He was born March 1, 1962 in Winchester, Virginia to Nick and the late Nancy Weich Dorko. He was the third of four children. He was baptized as a child and was a confessed believer in Jesus Christ our Messiah and Savior. Always an achiever, he was the valedictorian of Cleveland High School's Class of 1979 in Cleveland, TN. Craig attended the University of Tennessee at Knoxville where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Science. He received his medical degree from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) in 1987, where he continued his residency in internal medicine.

After completing his residency, Dr. Dorko joined the faculty at UTHSC, practicing at Regional One Health, then known as the Regional Medical Center. He served both the University and Hospital as Medical Director of the Internal Medicine Clinic 1990-2004 and was the Director of the Academic Hospitalist Program 2017-2020. He was appointed Associate Chief of Medicine in 2020. He additionally served on the medical staff of the Memphis VA Medical Center in the Emergency Department.

Dr. Dorko was renowned for his teaching abilities, medical knowledge, work ethic and commitment to the care of the underserved. The students and residents that Dr. Dorko trained thought the world of him and had wonderful things to say about him including: "Dr. Dorko was great to work with. He was a wonderful role model and very considerate of our time and was always gracious in answering questions." There are no words that can express how much he will be missed.

Mourning his loss, yet rejoicing in his purposeful life, are his survivors; loving wife Felicia Culmer Dorko; daughter Rea (Kalon) McClish; grandchildren, Hannah and Jude Wiseman; father Dr. Nick (Georgia) Dorko, Sr., of Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina; sisters, Julianne (David) Persson of Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, and Cathy (David) Calovich of Olathe, Kansas; brother, Dr. Nick



## Obituary

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(Melanie) Dorko, Jr. of Huntsville, Alabama; and nephews, Erik Persson of Charlotte, South Carolina and Daniel (Kaitlynn) Persson of Summerville, South Carolina, as well as a host of extended family, friends, colleagues, patients and students.

The family will receive relative and friends on Saturday, April 17 at 12:00 p.m. with a memorial service to follow at 1:00 p.m. in the Riverside Chapel of Memorial Park Funeral Home, 5668 Poplar Ave, Memphis, TN, 38119. [www.memorialparkonline.com](http://www.memorialparkonline.com) (901)767-8930.

To view the service click the following link:

<http://webcast.funeralvue.com/events/northstar/52290/hash:A55BEC1D7A521A50>




# Events


**Craig Steven Dorko MD**

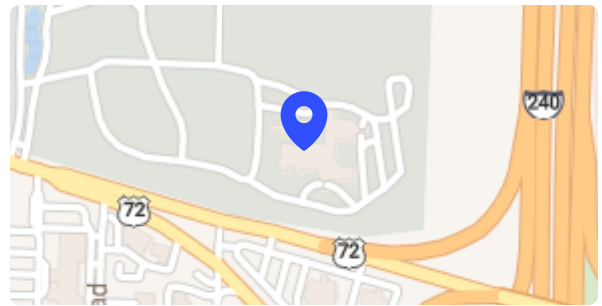
MAR 1, 1962 - MAR 25, 2021

## Visitation


 **Saturday**, April 17, 2021

 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CT


 **Memorial Park Funeral Home-Riverside Chapel**  
5668 Poplar Avenue, Memphis TN 38119

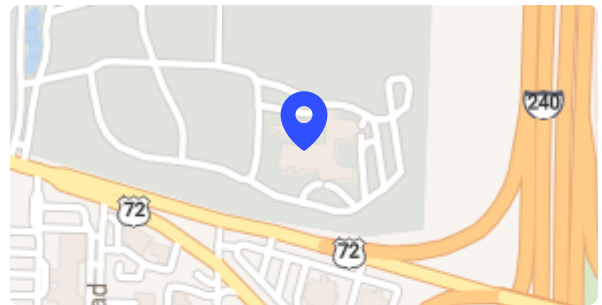


## Memorial Service

 **Saturday**, April 17, 2021

 1:00 PM CT

 **Memorial Park Funeral Home-Riverside Chapel**  
5668 Poplar Avenue, Memphis TN 38119





## Tribute Wall

**Craig Steven Dorko MD**

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**Memorial Park Funeral Home And Cemetery** shared a [Click here to view the webcasted service:](#)



April 15 at 12:09 PM



**Cynthia Cheatham** July 20 at 9:47 AM

OMG!!!! Dr. Dorko was THE BEST!! He was my doctor over 20 years! I grew to love him and definitely respect his gift. I am sooooo sorry to hear this.



**Dr. Marcus Reed** posted:

Fortunately, I met Craig in 1991 and I was able to continue to glean medical knowledge from Dr. Dorko until I left UTMB in 1995. I was trained by Dr. Dorko in Internal Medicine while in medical school/during my clinical rotations in the Fast Track area of the ER at The Med. I am not just a doctor but I'm a much better doctor because of the amazing training and firm instructions from Dr. Dorko. Dr. Dorko had an amazing mind with savant level knowledge of medicine and the human body. I often told him that he could update topics in our medical school textbook Harrison's Internal Medicine. He was a wonderful person, and his death is a tremendous loss to the medical world. I was blessed to call him my mentor and my friend. My condolences to his family. I am Dr. Marcus Reed (Geriatrics) Department of Veterans Affairs, Dallas Texas.

February 12 at 5:24 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Peggy** posted:

My heart goes out to the family of Dr. Dorko, he was the best doctor that I have ever had over the course of my entire 64 years of life. After finding out, that Dr. Dorko was practicing medicine outside of the hospital, I thought that I would never be able to pay for his services as a private practice, so I didn't pursue. I regret the thought of not trying, because now I believe that he truly would have taken a payment plan and would have prayed and knew the payments would be made. While at the MED, he went beyond the call of his duties to provide the best care for his patients regardless to their financial status. One year he was even transferred out of working in the rheumatoid department at The Med (Regional One Hospital) because he ordered Testes that most doctors and the hospital refused to do. When one doctor implied that my pain was in my head, Dr. Dorko disagreed and ordered tested to back up his theory to what he felt was wrong. Yes he did have the best work ethics and I believe truly consulted God concerning every patient. I believe, that had I found him much sooner, that all, if not most of my health issues would have been resolved years ago. Now, this God fearing, family loving man and doctor has gone on to Glory to be with The LORD and can no longer serve God here on Earth to be a healing vessel for God. This is why it's was best for me to have stuck with this true Christian doctor, who shared in the same faith and while he would searched through my medical files, I believe that he would always consult with God for THE answers for everyone. May he rest in peace and his family continue to rest in Love. May God continue to bless you all. Truly, Peggy, an old patient

September 5 at 4:27 AM



**Eric Armstrong** posted:

Just learned of Dr. Dorko's passing. I am very sorry to hear about this. I knew Craig before he was a doctor. I was a class mate of Craig's when we were in Junior High and High School in Cleveland, Tennessee. Craig was kind and supremely intelligent person that I highly respected. I wish nothing but the best for Craig's family during this difficult time. Eric S. Armstrong, Cleveland, Tennessee

June 30 at 7:51 AM



**Amanda Camp** posted:

I had the pleasure of working with Dr. Dorko at The Med ER 1994-1996. He was a great person and a caring doctor. I loved working with him. What a loss.

June 21 at 8:01 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Dreams From the Heart Bouquet to the Dorko family.



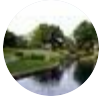
April 13 at 5:08 PM



## Media

**Craig Steven Dorko MD**

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April 15 at 12:09 PM



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

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



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