



Dr. McDonald Gray Jr.

June 1, 1944 - December 24, 2023

Dr. McDonald Gray, Jr., age 79 of Parrottsville, passed away Sunday, December 24, 2023.

He was a General Surgeon for 28 years in Newport, TN and was a Emergency Room Doctor for 13 years in various places and states.

Dr. McDonald Gray Jr.'s career in Newport began with the establishment of Newport Surgical Inc. in

1987. His career is marked by an impressive legacy of service and dedication to his patients, our local hospital and the community.

Dr. Gray's significant contributions to the Newport hospital and the broader medical landscape are evident through his extensive involvement in various committees. He served as the Medical Director of Surgery and the Critical Care Unit. He played a pivotal role in the development of protocols, policies, and procedures for patient care as the hospital built its first CCU in 1993. His dedication extended to acting as the Assistant Medical Examiner for Cocke County and assuming the role of Medical Examiner when needed. His participation on committees such as Surgical, Medical Executive, and Special Care reflects his multifaceted commitment to enhancing healthcare services. Beyond his professional achievements, Dr. Gray's impact is profoundly felt through the relationships he fostered. Dr. Gray was highly regarded by fellow Physicians, hospital employees, and patients alike. To fellow Physicians he was the ideal "small town" surgeon due to his excellent skills in many areas of surgery and medicine in general. He earned respect and affection for his laid -

back and straightforward nature. Despite his significant role in the medical community, Dr. Gray maintained a humble demeanor, always approachable to those in need.

A particularly commendable aspect of Dr. Gray's dedication was his unyielding commitment to patient care. Sleeping nearby in the CCU department during complex surgical cases and being on call almost 24/7 exemplifies his unwavering devotion to ensuring the community had consistent surgical coverage.

This level of commitment undoubtedly played a crucial role in providing quality healthcare for the surrounding community.

His Newport Surgical office closed in 2008. He continued his medical career after normal retirement age working in ER medicine in Sneedville TN. He continued to live here in Cocke County. To the ER patients he brought a higher level of ER care with his level of expertise.

Dr. Gray's passion for knowledge-sharing further enriched his legacy. Known for explaining medical concepts in accessible ways, he eagerly passed on his expertise to fellow Physicians, Nurses and anyone seeking to understand.

This commitment to education reflects not only his proficiency as a medical professional but also his desire to empower others with knowledge.

The lasting impact of Dr. Gray's career extends beyond the medical realm to encompass the close bonds he formed with his practice staff. Even after the closure of Newport Surgical Inc., he remained connected with his team, solidifying his status as a cherished figure and becoming more like family. This enduring relationship is a testament to the positive and lasting influence Dr. McDonald Gray Jr. had on both his professional colleagues and the wider community.

He was preceded in death by his parents Jean and McDonald Gray.

He is survived by his loving wife Jenean Gray; sons Nicholas (Katie) Gray and Richard Sullivan Gray; daughters Katherine Maxwell Gray (Jason Vaughn), Mary McGurie (Jessie) Simmons, and Misty Dorsey; grandchildren Lucindalee Gray, Elanor Simmons, and Jacqueline Simmons; sister Jean (John) Carroll;

brother-in-law and sister-in-law Cecil and Pam Prater; and nieces and nephews Tessa Isley, Lewis (Aileen) Carroll, Stephen (Jennifer) Carroll, and Elizabeth Ovlaman.

The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. Friday, December 29, 2023 at First Baptist Church. Funeral Services will follow on Friday at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church with Dr. Rich Lloyd officiating.

Entombment will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, December 30, 2023 in the Union Cemetery Mausoleum.

Pallbearers will be Richard Gray, Dr. Conway, Dr. Kickliter, Dr. Blombach, Dr. Adams, and Jerry Ford.

In lieu of flowers the family request that donations be made to the Animal Shelter or a charity of your choice.

Family and friends may sign the guest register online at www.manesfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements by Manes Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Receive Friends

DEC 29. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church Newport
599 Amanda Circle
Newport, TN 37821

Funeral service

DEC 29. 7:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church Newport
599 Amanda Circle
Newport, TN 37821

Entombment

DEC 30. 10:00 AM (ET)

Union Cemetery Mausoleum
Newport, TN 37821

Tribute Wall



“ *Manes Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. McDonald Gray Jr.*



Manes Funeral Home, Inc. - December 28, 2023 at 04:25 PM

DH

“ *To the Gray family-Please accept my sincere sympathy and prayers for your tremendous loss. Dr. Gray was a wonderful doctor who affected so many lives. God used him and gave him the medical wisdom to make a diagnosis for my dad which gave him several more years of quality life with us. He also initially diagnosed Ronnie's renal failure in time for him to receive treatment and a kidney transplant. We are so grateful to God for doctors like Dr. Gray who dedicate their lives to go above and beyond for their patients.*

Debbie Hommel - January 02, 2024 at 11:13 PM

EC

“ *Dr. Gray was well established in Newport when we moved there in 1993. He was a great friend and colleague to me during my 14 years there. I helped him on many surgeries and we worked together on many hospital committees. He always had a smile on his face and was a tremendous asset to the hospital and the community. He will be fondly remembered and greatly missed.*

Edward Capparelli - January 01, 2024 at 09:29 AM

WS

“ Mac Gray was a spectacular surgeon. My dad “scrubbed up “ with him many times and saw his work first hand-that’s why I went to him myself in 2006. I enjoyed his personality too. He was perfect for the ER. Well done Mac---the world is a better place because you were here. Odette and Bill Shults

William O Shults - December 30, 2023 at 10:51 AM

PP

“ If it wasn't for Dr. Gray we wouldn't have had our father for so many more years. He stuck by our father for three months in the hospital. He even wrote him up in a medical book. He saved our father life. He was the best surgeon and person I have ever met. He was a wonderful person.



Pamela R Paris - December 30, 2023 at 08:05 AM

KJ

“ Mac was a friend & colleague and a heck of a good surgeon. We were lucky to have such an excellent surgeon in Newport.
Ken Johnson MD

Ken Johnson - December 29, 2023 at 02:08 PM

JJ

“ I have wonderful memories of working with Dr Gray he was a great Doctor and caring person who was devoted to his work and patients and will always be remembered prayers for all of his love ones for healing and confort

Janice Jenkins - December 29, 2023 at 01:03 AM

JJ

“ *Janice Jenkins lit a candle in memory of McDonald Gray*



Janice Jenkins - December 29, 2023 at 12:18 AM

EW

“ *My Best Friend and (Brother of my Heart)! We had one of the Strongest Doctor and Nurse Relationships (Hospital and I worked beside him for 14 years in his Practice). Taught me and my Co-Nurses so many procedures in Critical Care from the First Day opening our New Unit!! See you later My Friend.*

Evelyn Webb - December 28, 2023 at 09:46 PM

EW

“ *Evelyn Webb lit a candle in memory of McDonald Gray*



Evelyn Webb - December 28, 2023 at 09:38 PM

PK

“ *Mac, you will be deeply missed.
Sending our love,
Paige Killian & family*

Paige Killian - December 28, 2023 at 05:58 PM



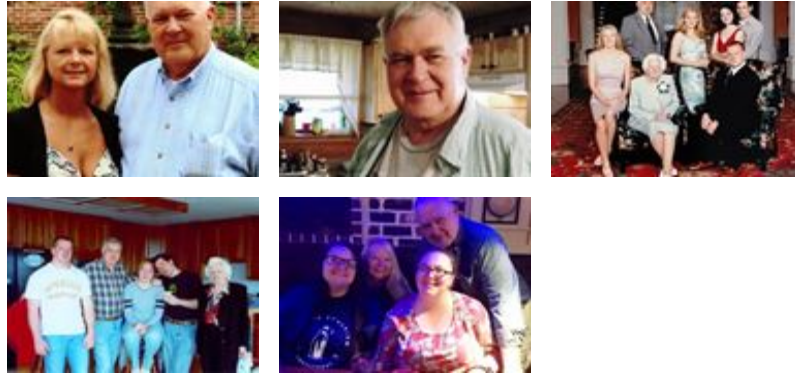
“ *Magnificent Life Spray* was purchased for the family of Dr. McDonald Gray Jr..



December 28, 2023 at 04:34 PM



“ *88 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Manes Funeral Home, Inc. - December 28, 2023 at 04:17 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Dr. McDonald Gray Jr..



December 28, 2023 at 03:09 PM

CH

“ *Jenean and Family,*

Thoughts and prayers for you all during this time and always. May you be surrounded by love, peace, and strengthened and encouraged by tender memories. May Dr. Gray rest in sweet peace.

Chris and Heather Gustafson

Chris - December 28, 2023 at 01:38 PM

DM

“ *Diana McGaha lit a candle in memory of McDonald Gray*



Diana McGaha - December 28, 2023 at 01:20 PM

PP

“ *We saw you as a Doctor we respected and trusted. We saw you as BROTHER in law and friend we love. Cecil & Pam*

Pam Prater - December 28, 2023 at 09:24 AM

KC

“ *Sorry to hear about Dr. Gray he was an awesome doctor and the sweetest man I know he was just down to earth and everyone liked him and he was always good to me no matter were I seen him he always had time to speak .my prayers away with his children and grandkids prayers are with you all .*



Kim Costner - December 28, 2023 at 08:56 AM

PS

“ Dr. Gray was an excellent doctor and was a wonderful person. You have my deepest sympathy. May God give you all the comfort and peace that you all need during this difficult time.

Pamela Suggs - December 28, 2023 at 03:45 AM

PE

“ Dr. Gray was a very special person. Always was cheerful in every way. Sadly missed by many.

Priscilla Evans - December 28, 2023 at 03:37 AM

PE

“ Priscilla Evans lit a candle in memory of McDonald Gray



Priscilla Evans - December 28, 2023 at 03:35 AM

BB

“ I am sorry to hear of Dr. Gray's passing. He was an amazing person, doctor, and friend. He will be missed by all who knew him. Wishing his family peace and comfort in the coming days.

Bea S. Brady - December 27, 2023 at 06:46 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dr. McDonald Gray Jr..



December 27, 2023 at 03:39 PM

GW

“ Dr. Gray was a wonderful physician and friend. I had the pleasure of working with him for a good while. He will be missed by many people. RIP my friend.

Glenda Willis - December 27, 2023 at 12:22 PM

PC

“ Dr. Grey (Mac) was a wonderful person, caring, loving and genuine all around good in every way. I will miss our talks and laughs. I know you will be watching over Jenean from heaven the love you have for each other will never fade. You will be missed. My deepest sympathy to the family May God help you through this time of grief. Prayers 🙏
Patsy Cureton

Patsy Cureton - December 27, 2023 at 11:45 AM

JG

Thank you Patsy, that is so sweet. I love you, and so did Mac.

Jenean Gray - December 28, 2023 at 08:29 PM

WF

“ Dr. Mac was a kindred soul and I'm lucky to have known him for 35 years. I'll miss him. Our prayers and thoughts to the Gray Family.
Bill and Karen Fenwick

William Fenwick - December 27, 2023 at 11:08 AM

DG

“ Sorry for your lost, Sending my condolences to you and your family,He was a great Doctor, I know he will be missed by me and Everyone 🙏🙏🙏🙏🌹🌹 Sincerely Debra Gann



Debra Gann - December 27, 2023 at 11:00 AM

LM

“ Jenean, I am so sorry. I am here if you need to talk. Love you

Lisa Mounkes - December 27, 2023 at 10:53 AM

BE

“ I have not seen him in along time. But, I know he would have been there for his friends if we need him. I know he was a good man and a good Doctor. His patients came first.

Betsy - December 27, 2023 at 10:31 AM

NO

“ Nancy Owens lit a candle in memory of McDonald Gray



Nancy Matthews Owens - December 27, 2023 at 09:15 AM

WB

“ Dr. Gray was a great doctor, one of the best we ever had, very knowledgeable and took great pride in his work and provided great care to our patients. My deepest sympathy to the family. Wendy Burchett and Family



Wendy, &, Doyle, Burchett - December 26, 2023 at 10:56 PM

SH

“ I have to say I appreciated Dr Gray so much in Feburary of 2000 my Mom got really sick and Dr Gray took care of her he stayed in the ER to check on her everytime I was in there he was there. I really appreciate that he cared so much about his patients I guess he could see the worry on my face a told me not to worry Mom would be alright. Sharon Hensley

Sharon - December 26, 2023 at 10:06 PM

VP

“ Velmer partin lit a candle in memory of McDonald Gray



Velmer partin - December 26, 2023 at 09:36 PM

BC

“ Brenda cook lit a candle in memory of McDonald Gray



Brenda cook - December 26, 2023 at 09:24 PM

MT

“ So sorry for your loss. I’m so grateful for what he did for (saving my life) me and my family. Prayers for comfort in the coming days.

Mae Testerman - December 26, 2023 at 09:00 PM

SO

“ I am so sorry to hear that Dr.Gray has passed away. He was an excellent surgeon. He was well respected and down to earth. He did so much good for our county. He has helped probably (at least) one person in every family around here. Dr. Gray was a very good man and will always be remembered. Thank you for all your years of service to this community. Rest In Peace Dr. Gray



Susie O’Dell - December 26, 2023 at 08:16 PM

JC

He was my beloved brother. How does one tell the world what a loving, caring, supportive and fun person he was? He has left behind mammoth footprints as an example of how to live a good life. God has added a beautiful soul to His heavenly kingdom. Rest in a well earned peace my dear Mac. Until we meet again...

Jean Gray Carroll - December 27, 2023 at 11:14 AM

NM

“ Our prayers are with you during this time Jenean and Misty. He will certainly be missed.

Nancy and Dale Murrell - December 26, 2023 at 06:55 PM

DO

“ *Jenean and Family:*

Our deepest sympathy to all of you in the loss of one of Newport's finest doctors. We well remember the late Dr. Glen Shults vowing , "He's a fine doctor" shortly after his arrival in Newport. Several years later he proved Dr. Shults' statement to be correct when he caught Kay's breast cancer in early stages. His action assured us that she remains a survivor today over 20 years out.

Thank you, Dr. Gray. You were a gifted treasure.

Duay O'Neil - December 26, 2023 at 05:48 PM