



Dr. William Harwell Murrey

November 28, 1934 - September 18, 2025

Dr. William Harwell Murrey, age 90, passed away on September 18, 2025. Born November 28, 1934, he was preceded in death by parents Joseph Henning Murrey and Margaret Harwell Murrey, brother Joseph Henning Murrey, Jr., and eldest son William Harwell (Bill) Murrey, Jr.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Jane Cary Murrey, sons Dr. Marshall Cary Murrey (Maloo) of Boone, NC; Dr. Daniel Beasley Murrey (Katherine Oates) of Asheville, NC; daughters Cary Murrey Brimm (Jack) of Brentwood, TN; Margaret Murrey DiNella of Birmingham, AL; daughter-in-law, Callie Morris Murrey of Pulaski, TN; and ten grandchildren: Louisa Noel Murrey, Eli Henning Murrey (Hannah), Samuel Cotten Murrey, Katherine Lucille Murrey, Jack Harwell Brimm, Joseph Henry DiNella, Robert Cary DiNella, William Cary Brimm, Haynes Heron Murrey, and Alder Oriole Murrey.

Raised in Lewisburg, Tennessee, Dr. Murrey graduated from Marshall County High School and later The University of the South at Sewanee (1957). Upon graduation, he married his devoted wife Jane, and together they moved to Memphis, where he attended the University of Tennessee Medical School (1961).

In 1961 Dr. Murrey moved his young family back to southern middle TN, where he joined the medical practice of Physicians & Surgeons of Pulaski and

worked as an attending physician at Giles County Hospital. For the next 40 years he served Giles Countians as a family physician in an era that not only included office visits, house calls, and hospital rounds, but also delivering babies, performing surgery, staffing the emergency room and even weekends spent living in the hospital. After retiring from private practice, Dr. Murrey continued on as the medical director at NHC Nursing Home of Pulaski for many years. At retirement countless patients expressed appreciation for his keen diagnoses, vigilant care, and calming bedside manner with a proper mix of seriousness and humor. Always a stylish dresser, he was never seen without a suit and tie, and as he aged he collected and wore tiny round antique glasses in the style of Ben Franklin, peering over them to share his clinical or fatherly wisdom.

In addition, Dr. Murrey served his country reaching the rank of Lieutenant Colonel of the Tennessee National Guard and his community for decades as a director of the First National Bank of Pulaski. Inspired by the entrepreneurial spirit of his own father, Dr. Murrey founded several additional businesses and shared ownership of a Sundrop bottling franchise with his childhood neighbor and several Pulaski friends.

In 1973, Dr. and Mrs. Murrey bought a farm at Hicks Cut where they kept their teenage sons busy with farming. Soon after they built their family home, an 18th-century style inspired by the Wythe house of Williamsburg, and subsequently developed elaborate gardens surrounding it. Over the years Harwell and Jane developed a fondness for art and period antiques, and Harwell always loved the opportunity to search for a “storied” piece.

In spite of his busy medical practice, he was always home in time for dinner at the table with Jane and all of the children. He was fond of saying, “Isn’t this grand!” and his life certainly was. A constant figure in the lives of his wife and children he was a powerful role model, provider, friend, and caregiver to his

family and his community.

Visitation will be Saturday, September 27, 2025 from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm at the First United Methodist Church in Pulaski, Tennessee.

The funeral service will follow at 1:00pm at the First United Methodist Church.

The burial will follow in Maplewood Cemetery.

Bennett-May & Pierce Funeral Home and Crematory is in charge of arrangements for Dr. William Harwell Murrey.

Cemetery Details

Maplewood Cemetery

500 Ballentin Street
Pulaski, TN 38478

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 27. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
200 West Jefferson Street
Pulaski, TN

Funeral Service

SEP 27. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
200 West Jefferson Street
Pulaski, TN

Tribute Wall

SO

“ I've just learned of Dr Murrey's passing and am so sorry for his family and all who loved him. He was a wonderful and caring Dr; and a wonderful gentleman. I missed him after his retirement. May God bless and comfort you all 🙏

Susanne Owens - October 07, 2025 at 01:54 PM

GS

“ Dr. Murrey was a great man. He did much to advance my nursing career and was always a positive force in my life. I am just learning of his death but will never forget him. May God receive him and comfort his family. Gwen Sharifi,R.N.

Gwen Sharifi - October 03, 2025 at 12:36 PM

HB

“ Dr.Murrey was a kind and sweet Doctor.I missed him so much after he retired from the clinic. He will be missed. Praying for the family .God Bless you all.



Hattie Bledsoe - September 26, 2025 at 03:22 PM

FB

“ He was my Dr for many years. My mom was a nurse and worked at the hospital with him. My mom told me how when he was a little boy he would ride on the behind his grandfather on the mule going down the road. My great grandmother was a Harwell and were cousins to his grandfather. He was a great Doctor and a wonderful man. He will be greatly missed.

Freda Christopher Bee - September 25, 2025 at 11:07 PM

ED

“ When I was about 6 years old, I had an accident at home. My parents were out of town, so our housekeeper, Mandy, called Dr. Murrey and said “Come get Sissy, she needs stitches .” Dr. Murrey came to the house, took me to the hospital, sewed up my head, bought me an ice cream and took me home. We moved from Pulaski, but I will always remember how kind he was to a scared little girl. - Elizabeth (Sissy) Moore Daniell

Elizabeth(Sissy) Moore Daniell - September 25, 2025 at 08:38 PM

RS

“ I'm so sorry to hear of the passing of Dr Murrey. He was a very good doctor to alot of people in this small community.



Ruth Stewart - September 24, 2025 at 12:48 PM

KC

“ What a beautiful obituary for a one-of-a-kind being. Sending my condolences and love.

Kacey Cardin - September 23, 2025 at 11:14 AM

AH

“ Dr Murrey delivered me at the old Giles County hospital and many years later he saved my life. One of the finest Drs Pulaski has ever had. Condolences to his family and friends.



Ann Hardaway - September 22, 2025 at 05:52 PM

RD

“ Randy Shrader & Brion Dixon lit a candle in memory of Dr. William Harwell Murrey



Randy Shrader & Brion Dixon - September 22, 2025 at 12:22 PM

BM

“ BETTY MCREE lit a candle in memory of Dr. William Harwell Murrey



BETTY MCREE - September 20, 2025 at 07:49 PM



“ Dr. Murray sounds like an amazing man.i get to work with his daughter, Cary. She is kind and smart and made Dr. Murray proud I'm sure. Prayers for your family.

Karen Carroll - September 20, 2025 at 11:40 AM

SW

“ A great man and an honor and a privilege to call him my friend. Dr.Murray will be missed. My sympathy and prayers to his friends and family.

Steve White - September 20, 2025 at 10:17 AM

DR

“ What a great man and great friend. He was always missed in Pulaski after leaving and will always be.

David Rackley - September 20, 2025 at 10:03 AM

NM

“ I didn't have the honor of meeting Dr Murrey, but I work closely with his daughter. For as amazing as she is, I can only assume he was one incredible father.

Nick Marchant - September 20, 2025 at 09:50 AM

DH

“ Deborah B Hopper lit a candle in memory of Dr. William Harwell Murrey



Deborah B Hopper - September 20, 2025 at 09:47 AM

CH

“ Dr. Murrey took great care of my mom, Ruby Erwin, from the 1960s until his retirement. There was a black and white picture of a rural snow scene that hung in his office. My mom loved snow scenes and commented on the picture on several occasions. On one particular visit, Dr. Murrey removed it from the wall and presented it to my mom. She treasured it.

Carolyn Hughey - September 20, 2025 at 09:40 AM

TB

“ So sorry for your loss.

Toby Barrett - September 20, 2025 at 08:44 AM

YM

“ He was a great doctor and person. I remember him looking over his glasses. Sending prayers for everyone 🙏🙏



Yvonne Mcfann - September 19, 2025 at 10:04 PM

ML

“ Dear Jane, Mark, Dan, Cary and Margaret, I just learned of Harwell's passing. I have so many fond memories of him as my childhood doctor and close family friend. Terry joins me in extending our sincere condolences. Marianne Lipman Levenson

Marianne Levenson - September 19, 2025 at 09:23 PM

TA

“ TammyNilesSimmons lit a candle in memory of Dr. William Harwell Murrey



TammyNilesSimmons - September 19, 2025 at 08:45 PM

TH

“ Thoughts and prayers for you all during this difficult time. I was a patient of Physician & Surgeons since the 1980's and he was a hard worker. So sorry for your loss. Tanywa Doggett Hobbs



Tanywa Doggett Hobbs - September 19, 2025 at 08:12 PM

CO

“ *CoraDarnell lit a candle in memory of Dr. William Harwell Murrey*



CoraDarnell - September 19, 2025 at 08:09 PM

CS

“ *Caroline Scoggin lit a candle in memory of Dr. William Harwell Murrey*



Caroline Scoggin - September 19, 2025 at 06:54 PM

TM

I remember him looking over his glasses and talking with a calm voice when he removed a frog gig from my wrist. I was 8 years old. Didn't charge my Mama a thing, just told me to be more careful.

Thomas G Miller - September 20, 2025 at 11:42 AM

PM

A fine doctor, kind and gentle.

praise from my deceased mom, - September 20, 2025 at 12:15 PM

EJ

I remeber him well as part of the team of doctors with Dr Agee, and Dr Kressenburger. Always kind and caring to me and my family when he was in Pulaski.

Edward P Parsons Jr - September 21, 2025 at 11:14 PM

ED

When I was about 6 years old, I had an accident at home. My parents were out of town, so our housekeeper, Mandy, called Dr Murrey and said "Come get Sissy, she needs stitches." Dr Murrey came to the house, took me to the hospital, sewed up my head, bought me an ice cream and took me home. We moved away from Pulaski, but I will always remember how kind he was to a scared little girl.

Elizabeth (Sissy) Moore Daniell

Elizabeth(Sissy) Moore Daniell - September 23, 2025 at 11:36 AM

DM

Deepest sympathy to Jane in particular whom I was privileged to serve with in TN UMC Higher Education. God's peace be with you and your family. So sorry for you loss of such a fine man. Rev. David McIntyre

David McIntyre - September 24, 2025 at 12:33 AM

JJ

Dr. Murray cared for our entire family from birth...my mother worked for him for years. We are so grateful for his wisdom, consultation, and guidance from the beginning. His entire family was legendary in our community as I was closely associated with the family's siblings. From my family...we love you all so much.

Jay

Jay Jones - October 27, 2025 at 01:58 PM