



## Dr. Beryl H. Owens

November 17, 1926 - March 31, 2016

Dr. Beryl H. Owens, MD passed away on March 31, 2016 after a short illness, he was 89.

Dr. Owens was born in Harlan County KY, November 17, 1926. In 1939 he moved to Rose Hill with his parents Jessie and Leota (Ledford). He had no brothers or sisters. He graduated Thomas Walker High School in 1944, then served two years in the U. S. Army from 1944-46 in the U.S., Philippines and Hawaiian Territory.

In 1950 Dr. Owens earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Lincoln Memorial University and his medical degree from the University of Virginia School of Medicine.

In 1954 he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the Army Medical Corps and in 1954-55, he interned at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver Colorado where he met and married Beth Bray of Provo, Utah.

Dr. Owens entered private practice on September 8, 1955 in Rose Hill. His first office was a remodeled restaurant building next to the Rose Hill Esso (later Exxon) Station.

After 15 years in that location, he moved upstairs in the former Doc Pierce

drugstore building near the railroad depot where they used to show silent movies. He practiced there until February 28, 1997. After retiring from private practice, he contracted for a short time for the Rose Hill Rural Health Clinic and retired fully on August 1, 1997. Following his retirement, Dr. Owens also spent one summer volunteering at the Cherokee Nation's Nowata Primary Care Clinic in Nowata, Oklahoma.

When Dr. Owens began practice, office calls were \$3, which included the medicine. He spent the morning hours in his office and in the afternoons made house calls. His last house call was January 25, 1997. He also served as Medical Examiner for Lee County until his death.

Dr. Owens was an avid Gardner and self-proclaimed "Champion Zucchini Grower". He also belonged to the Civitan Club and the Lee County Garden Club. He served on the Board of Directors of the People's Bank, a past president and delegate to the Medical Society of Virginia and a member of an advisory committee to the Virginia Board of Education. He also served a number of years on the Lee County School Board and was a past Chairman. He served on the LMU Intuitional Review Board and in 2009, Dr. Owens was induced into the LMU Hall of Professional Fame.

Dr. Owens was preceded in death by his parents, Jessie and Leota Owens, his wife, Beth Bray Owens and son, Courtney Owens. He is survived by his son, Whitney Owens, granddaughter Audrey and husband Michael Buoniconti and four great-grandchildren; Gaberilla, Bentley, Michael and Kara.

The family will receive friends from 4:00 until 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at Robinette Funeral Home in Rose Hill. Funeral Mass will be held at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 6, at St. Julian Catholic Church in Middlesboro, KY. Burial will follow in the Owens Family Cemetery.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 5. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Robinette Funeral Home (Rose Hill)  
207 DeRoyal Industries Drive  
P.O. Box 388  
Rose Hill, VA 24281  
(276) 445-5101

## Funeral Service

APR 6. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Julian Catholic Church  
118 E. Chester Avenue  
Middlesboro, KY 40965

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Beryl H. Owens*

October 05, 2023 at 07:31 PM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of Dr Owens passing. He was my landlord once and he was so nice to me. Prayers for the family.*

**Mary Collett** - April 10, 2016 at 07:28 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy goes out to your family. My greatest memory of Doc Owens was that when I was six and in the first grade, 53 years ago, Doc Owens sewed the end of my finger back on that was cut off from a slamming door at Rose Hill School. I will never forget him and he probably never forgot me either. Mr Tyler, the school principal and my sister took me to him. He was a good doctor and a well thought of man. I also remember you too, Whitney. You family is in my prayers.*

**Sue (Gilbert) Ramsey** - April 06, 2016 at 02:12 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Beryl H. Owens.*



April 05, 2016 at 01:47 PM

LM

“ Dear Whitney, Audrey and family,  
Dr. Beryl Owens will always be in our hearts and missed along with  
Beth and Courtney.  
God bless all of you.

Luther & Ann Moyers  
LuAnn, Leslie and Lisa

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Lisa Moyers - April 05, 2016 at 01:01 PM



“ He was the last of the "country" doctors. From 1966 till his  
retirement, he treated my every illness. Farewell Dr. Owens, you are  
missed.

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Terry Brown - April 05, 2016 at 11:43 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for  
the family of Dr. Beryl H. Owens.



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April 05, 2016 at 07:29 AM

KS

“ Kevin, Deb, Joe, Alex, Emily and Sarah.  
purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of  
Dr. Beryl H. Owens.



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Kevin, Deb, Joe, Alex, Emily and Sarah. - April 05, 2016 at  
05:48 AM

RJ

“ *Reda Marcum Jones lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens*



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**Reda Marcum Jones** - April 05, 2016 at 04:58 AM

DG

“ *Doc Owens was my doctor for many years. He was not only a personal doctor to many but also a friend. A wonderful person. He will be missed by this whole community.*

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**Denise Lawson Glass** - April 04, 2016 at 09:00 PM

JE

“ *He was a fine man and Dr to. Done so much for the community. He will be missed*

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**Jody Ely** - April 04, 2016 at 04:14 PM

LB

“ *LaVerne Brown lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens*



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**LaVerne Brown** - April 04, 2016 at 03:43 PM

EC

“ Was so sorry to hear of the passing of doctor Beryl. He was my doctor and my friend for many years. He saw my father through over twenty years of sickness for which I am very thankful. My prayers are with you in your loss. Ed Catron

Ed Catron - April 04, 2016 at 02:24 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Beryl H. Owens.



April 04, 2016 at 02:04 PM

CM

“ Carolyn Moles lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens



Carolyn Moles - April 04, 2016 at 01:41 PM

TE

“ A fine man and a dear friend.



Terry Estep - April 04, 2016 at 01:23 PM

CA

“ *Chris Ayers lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens*



chris ayers - April 04, 2016 at 01:16 PM

DB

“ *DeAnna Bailey lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens*



DeAnna Bailey - April 04, 2016 at 01:10 PM

TW

“ *Tom Wheeler lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens*



Tom Wheeler - April 04, 2016 at 01:04 PM

GH

“ *Gina Owens Hall lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens*



Gina Owens Hall - April 04, 2016 at 12:48 PM

“ *In memory of Beryl Owens  
A great man and a good friend*

*I suspect that I was one of the first individuals in Rose Hill to visit Dr. Beryl Owens in his new office—between the Rose Hill Baptist Church and the Rose Hill Esso. I was 14 or 15 years old, and Beryl was working to remodel what had at one time been a restaurant. We struck up a conversation. I was almost immediately attracted to him because he was such a warm and friendly man, and he took time to talk to a young boy who just happened to wonder in. I “helped” him with the remodeling. I had known his dad for several years. Jessie was proud that his son was returning to Rose Hill to practice medicine.*

*Beryl had a good sense of humor, and at one point, I commented: “My dad will probably be covering up a lot of your mistakes.”*

*“Oh,” said Beryl, “What does your dad do?”*

*“He’s the undertaker,” said I.*

*Beryl laughed, and we became friends for life.*

*After graduating from high school, I went to college at the Virginia Military Institute. Beryl wrote one of my letters of recommendation. I suspect he had something to do with my receiving the Civitan Good Citizenship award the year I graduated from Thomas Walker. After VMI, I went into the army, then to Vietnam, then to graduate school, then back to VMI as a faculty member. I was there when his son Whitney was a cadet.*

*Each time I returned to Rose Hill, I made a point to visit Beryl and Beth. He never changed—always the same warm and friendly man. The last time I saw him was in the spring of 1996, just a week or two before my mother passed away. He stopped by to check on her: it wasn’t the first time he had been to see her. He made house calls*

*on a regular basis. In 1996, he had to be the only MD who still made house calls. But even then, he was the same Beryl I had met more than 40 years earlier. I could hardly tell that he had aged, even a day since 1955.*

*Beryl and Beth were wonderful people and great parents. I loved them both, and I am so sad to see them gone. They touch the lives of so many. Their son Whitney was a terrific young man.*

*Floyd H. Duncan*

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**Floyd H. Duncan** - April 04, 2016 at 09:12 AM

JD

“ *Janet Dubovsky lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens*



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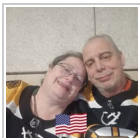
**janet dubovsky** - April 04, 2016 at 07:53 AM

JD

*Our condolences to all families and friends of Dr. Owens whose lives he touched daily, much love!*

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**janet dubovsky** - April 04, 2016 at 07:56 AM



“ *Deadra Howard lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens*



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**Deadra Howard** - April 04, 2016 at 05:17 AM

GS

“ George W. Scott Sr. lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens



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George W. Scott Sr. - April 04, 2016 at 02:23 AM

EG

“ Dr.Owen  
Care for me and my family for years.until he retired. He was such a great doctor, he truly cared for his patients. I remember my Mom took me too see him. I was so sick, Mom didn't have much money. Dr.Owens looked at my Mom, put his hand on her shoulder and said that's ok you can give it to me next time. We loved you then and we still love you now. Rest in Peace Our Friend. Prayers go out to the Family and Friends.  
Love Ethel Hall Gueye



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Ethel Hall Gueye - April 04, 2016 at 12:15 AM

MA

“ Michelle Ayers lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens



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michelle ayers - April 03, 2016 at 09:40 PM

MS

“ Margaret Short lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens



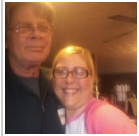
Margaret Short - April 03, 2016 at 09:14 PM

MA

“ Marsha Ayers lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens



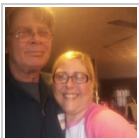
Marsha Ayers - April 03, 2016 at 07:41 PM



“ Jennifer Jones lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens



Jennifer Jones - April 03, 2016 at 07:33 PM



“ Jennifer Jones lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beryl H. Owens



Jennifer Jones - April 03, 2016 at 07:29 PM