



Dr. James R. Wilson

February 16, 1945 - January 16, 2014

Dr. James Roger Wilson of Cadillac passed away Thursday, January 16, 2014 at his home. He was 68. He was born February 16, 1945, in Oak Park, Illinois, an only child born to Roger and Marian (Morrison) Wilson.

Jim graduated from York High School in Elmhurst, Illinois in 1963. He joined the band, where he played the clarinet, bass clarinet and bassoon. He was also in the marching band and orchestra. He also enjoyed playing basketball and especially baseball.

He completed his Bachelor's Degree at Beloit College. He joined Sigma Pi fraternity in his sophomore year; because it drew in the intellectuals. As biology major; he didn't enter college knowing that he would be a doctor. In his junior year, he decided to become a doctor, after learning more about biology. He graduated in 1967.

After college, in 1967 he joined the United States Navy, ROTC, where he went to Vietnam three times. His ship was the USS Elkhorn. He went right from active duty as Lt. Junior grade to active reserves where he was promoted to Lt. He was discharged in 1971.

He attended Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine Medical School, which was affiliated with the University of Illinois, from 1972-1976 then started his

internship in July of 1976.

In 1976, Jim was an intern at Flint Osteopathic Hospital. During his first rotation, he was assigned to the Pediatric floor where he met the former Diane Thorpe, who was an LPN. Jim and Diane started dating in August of 1976 and married on May 21, 1977 in Flint. In June, they moved to Berwyn, Illinois, where Jim completed Residency at MacNeal Memorial Hospital.

In July of 1979, they moved to Cadillac, where Dr. Wilson joined Dr. Caszatt's office, which became Family Practice. Dr. Wilson was with Family Practice from 1979 to 2004 as a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. After 25 years, Dr. Wilson retired. Becoming a Medical Director for Hospice of Michigan helped with fulfilling the desire to spend more quality time with patients. He fulfilled this role for 17 years; from 1995 to 2012. It was also during this time that he became the District 10 Department of Health, Medical Director from 2005 to 2013 for a total of 8 years. Dr. Wilson was also the Autumnwood of McBain Medical Director from 1995-2011. He had completed his Master's Degree in Public Health and was also certified in Geriatric Medicine.

Jim loved to read anything. He had a great love of music, all kinds. Jim could often be seen riding his bike around Lake Cadillac, which he started doing over 10 years ago with a goal of getting healthier. He played clarinet in the Clam Lake Band for eight years. He was known as a big jokester and for his unique sense of humor.

Jim is survived by his wife, Diane; three children: Stephanie Wilson (Eric), Christopher Wilson and Daniel Wilson all of Cadillac; three grandchildren: Brianna, Hannah and Logan.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by an Aunt and Uncle, Janet and Peter Vitton.

Memorial services will be held 11:00 a.m. Saturday, January 25, 2014 at the Peterson Funeral Home in Cadillac with Reverend Linnea Stifler and Reverend David Brower officiating. His final resting place will be Clam Lake Township Cemetery in Wexford County. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan or St. Mary's Memorial Fund. An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Tribute Wall

CD

“ *I don't normally return to Guest Books but in this case I felt compelled to. I missed you when you retired (just like I will Dr. Nair soon), and I miss you now. I once said to someone, "Wow, Dr. Wilson is hard to become a patient of for some people" This person replied that the best doctors are well known and in high demand... Dr. Wilson fit this category perfectly and I will never forget him. I love a wonderful doctor but also one who became friends with all who met him. He truly cared about people and his smile showed it. I hope it helps his family to know that he will never be forgotten. God Bless.*

Connie Dinnan - February 06, 2014 at 06:03 PM

PE

“ *He was my doctor when I was younger. I really got to know him when I started working at Mercy back in 1996. He had a wonderful sense of humor and was an amazing person, physician and friend to everyone he met. I'm glad he is no longer suffering but he will missed by many. RIP Dr Wilson we are blessed to have known you.*

Penny - February 01, 2014 at 08:42 AM

RM

“ *Such a loss to his family, and our entire community.*

Robin Mosher - January 27, 2014 at 08:46 AM

BH

“ We remember Dr. Wilson as a kind man and an excellent physician. He was well regarded everywhere he went. Dan, big hugs from Gopherwood too.

Becky & Jerry Herring - January 26, 2014 at 03:32 PM

LL

“ What a wonderful and caring man! He was our family's doctor for years and years. Thank you for sharing him!

Lance & Mary Lindwall - January 25, 2014 at 10:18 AM

SW

“ I can't even begin to express my sorrow about Docs passing. I always called him Doc for the 20 years that he was my physician and he was the most caring, wonderful doctor that I've ever met. I know how sad I've been since I heard the news and I can't imagine how his family must feel. Hopefully all of his loved ones know what a positive difference he made in the lives of people in Cadillac. Thank God he chose our town to practice medicine in. Farewell Doc, you are the best of the best.

Scott Watson - January 24, 2014 at 05:30 PM

DS

“ We were so sorry to hear of Dr. Wilson's passing..He was not only a wonderful doctor he was also a wonderful man with a generous joyful heart.RIP Dr. Wilson.. Dan & Rita Shankel

Dan and Rita Shankel - January 24, 2014 at 02:50 PM

OC

“ *The Oceana County Board of Commissioners is extremely sorry to hear about the loss of Dr. Wilson. He will be greatly missed.*

Oceana County Board of Commissioners - January 24, 2014 at 01:42 PM

BG

“ *Jim was a good man. He was smart, funny and had a sharp wit. Jim was thoughtful and always pleasant.*

Bob Graham - January 24, 2014 at 11:08 AM

AB

“ *You are in Heaven with the Angels Dr. Wilson! I was a patient of his for many years. I love him so much he was such a Great Doctor and he was your friend as well. Cadillac lost such a fantastic man. To DR's Family may you find Peace in knowing how special he was to his patience He will never be forgotten. RIP Dr. Wilson fly free now my man!!!!!!*

Ann (Olmstead) Burmania - January 24, 2014 at 09:53 AM

HM

“ *I am thankful that I had him as doctor growing up and enjoyed the many weekends spent at the Wilson house when I was younger. Diane, Stepahnie, Chris, and Daniel thank you for sharing you dad/husband with all of us. He has touched so many and will be missed.*

Heidi McCurry - January 23, 2014 at 05:59 PM

SW

“ I just want to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers. My dad was an amazing man and the more comments I see the more I realized just how special he was not only to our family, but to this community. To me, he was just "Dad" and I love him and miss him so much, but he is now at peace and there is no more sickness. Again, thank you for all the love and support, it means the world to my family.

Stephanie Wilson - January 23, 2014 at 02:28 PM

WB

“ I am so sorry to hear this news. I worked with Dr. Wilson for several years. He was a great doctor, teacher, and a wonderful man. His kindness and sense of humor were neverending. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Wendy (Muste) Bullard - January 23, 2014 at 09:38 AM

MT

“ Love you, miss you forever and thanks for all the wonderful memories, rip our dear brother in-law

mike and tam - January 22, 2014 at 09:20 PM

DW

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family in this time of loss.

Debbie Wetherell - January 22, 2014 at 09:13 PM

JK

“ I have worked closely with Dr. Wilson since 2005 and Doc brightened every day he was at work as Medical Director of District Health Department #10. He left his footprints on the hearts of everyone who knew him. Now his footprints are in heaven and we can rest knowing we will meet again. Doc can show us all around, but for now we all will miss him so very much!

Joyce Kelley - January 21, 2014 at 02:29 PM

CD

“ I am so sad to hear of Dr. Wilson's passing. He was my doctor for more than 20 years and one of the best that Cadillac has ever seen. He truly cared about people and stayed down to earth in spite of the fact that he was a truly brilliant man. God be with his family and may you rest in peace forever more Dr. Wilson.

Connie Dinnan - January 20, 2014 at 11:49 AM

MH

“ I'm so sorry to hear about Dr. Wilson. He was my doctor back in the day when he worked with Dr Casette. I'm so glad I got to talk with him a bit when I came across him wondering around the hospital. He reminded me of when him and I both started working for Mercy Hospital way back then. We laughed and talked about the good old day. Memories I will never forget. No more pain my friend. Sadly all that knowledge you have had to be a wonderful doctor is gone with you. Lots of love. MJ

MJ Henry - January 20, 2014 at 11:29 AM

KM

“ I am devistated by the loss of such a great man and doctor! Dr. Wilson was my doctor from the time I was a baby until the day he retired. I adored him. He went above and beyond for his patients. My condolences are with his family. I am glad that he is now at peace. He will truly be missed by many!

Kandy Scarbrough Mehlhorn - January 19, 2014 at 01:19 PM

I&

“ Will miss you

I&B - January 19, 2014 at 08:47 AM

BB

“ he was a doctor I felt close to an I could really talk to and I could tell he really care about the health and well being of me and my family. He will be missed!

Bette Bednarick - January 18, 2014 at 06:20 PM

KD

“ I am so sorry to hear about the loss of such a wonderful Dr. and man. He was always smiling, cheerful and everyone that had the pleasure of knowing him will be so sad for his passing. My thoughts and prayers are with the family

Kay Dodge - January 18, 2014 at 09:57 AM

DF

“ we are so very sorry for your loss thoughts & prayers to your family

Douglas family - January 17, 2014 at 03:33 PM

JS

“ *Dr Wilson was our family from the early 90's until he retired. He did so much for us. We loved him...God has gained a superior man. Our prayers are with the family.*
h2jrhJack and Peg Speelman

Jack and Peg Speelman - January 17, 2014 at 02:04 PM