



Dr. E. Anthony "Tony" Musarra

October 18, 1943 - March 15, 2017

Dr. Elmer Anthony Musarra, II of Marietta, Georgia, died Wednesday, March 15 surrounded by his family. He was 73.

Born on October 18, 1943 in Marietta, Georgia, to the late Helen and Elmer Musarra, also a doctor, Tony – to all who knew him – was a beloved plastic surgeon who never met a stranger and could light up a room with his warmth and laugh. Even in the midst of his short battle with brain cancer, Tony publically accepted the very first “E. Anthony Musarra Award” given by the Cobb County Medical Society for his distinguished and meritorious service and had the entire room smiling.

A graduate of Marietta High School where he played football and excelled academically, Tony went on to play football at Tulane University before the Georgia Bulldogs wooed him to Athens. At The University of Georgia, Tony was a member of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity, managing to be social chairman while simultaneously keeping his eye on his future medical career. His accomplishments and involvement led to an induction by the Gridiron Secret Society.

Tony went on to receive his medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia, and completed his final residency at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Houston, Texas, in the early 1970s where he trained under the co-founder of the silicone breast implant. Like his father, Tony wanted to open his own practice in Marietta, so he returned home and founded Plastic Surgery Center of the South, which he ran and operated successfully for more than 40 years.

Dr. Tony Musarra was a talented surgeon and a people person, making patients feel like his best friend. But he was also committed and dedicated to the advancement of medicine, particularly its intersection with politics. He dedicated many years of his life to the Cobb County Medical Society, serving as its president in 1999 and remaining active on the board until his death. In 1982, he worked with Kennestone Hospital to advance the practice of oxygen therapy wound care for patients; in 1992 he served as the president of

The Georgia Society of Plastic Surgeons; in 2003 he collected checks for Gov. Sonny Perdue's campaign and educated legislators on the importance of the patient / physician relationship; and in 2005 after Hurricane Katrina he helped organize the Cobb Medical Reserve Corp., which provided emergency training to physicians.

More important to him than these accomplishments were his friendships and his family, for whom he would move mountains. He was generous, kind, loving, fun, free-spirited and had friends of all ages all over the world. He loved to hunt, golf, and fish – wherever his friends were, so was he.

On the golf course he also found success, hitting a hole in one at his Marietta Country Club on May 1, 2011 with his lifelong golfing buddies there to witness this momentous occasion. The Augusta National Golf Club could be called his home away from home, as he never missed a single Master's Golf Tournament in 54 years.

He married his beloved wife, Carole Cole Musarra, in 2006, and together they were active members of Northside United Methodist Church, patrons of Atlanta institutions such as the Fox Theatre and the High Museum of Art, and members of many organizations such as the Atlanta History Center and the Atlanta Botanical Garden. They enjoyed traveling and spending time with their friends, children and grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife, his son Schiaffino Musarra and his wife Joanna Tisell; his two stepdaughters, Hadley Creekmuir and her husband Will, and Marion Meythaler and her husband Nick; his grandchildren Saga and Isac Musarra, Lanier and William Creekmuir, and Lachlan Meythaler; his brother and sister Bill Musarra and Laura Musarra; and his niece Nicolette Musarra Puckett.

A visitation will be held Friday, March 17 from 5 – 7:30 p.m. at Mayes Ward-Dobbins Funeral Home in Marietta, Georgia, and a celebration of life service on Saturday, March 18 at 11 a.m. at Northside United Methodist Church followed by a reception at the church. The burial will be held 4:00 pm immediately following the reception at Carrollton City Cemetery in Carrollton, Georgia.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent in memory of Tony to the Accelerate Brain Cancer Cure (abc2.org), Northside United Methodist Church or the Piedmont Hospital Brain Tumor Center Foundation.

www.mayeswarddobbins.com

770-428-1511

Cemetery

Carrollton City Cemetery

Alabama Street
Carrollton, GA,

Events

MAR **Visitation** 05:00PM - 07:30PM

17

Mayes Ward-Dobbins Historic Marietta Chapel
180 Church Street, Marietta, GA, US, 30060

MAR **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

18

Northside United Methodist Church
2799 Northside Dr NW, Atlanta, GA, US, 30305

Comments



“ Dr. Musarra was so kind and compassionate throughout my recovery from Mohs and reconstruction surgeries in FEB 2016. My last visit with him around APR or MAY 2016 he walked in and gave me warm hug. He calmed my fears about my nose ever being "normal" again. He was a southern gentleman. I just learned of his passing and am so very sorry. I know he will be missed by his colleagues, staff and patients as well as his family and friends. May you all be comforted by fond memories and the hope you will see him again!
Vicki Davis

Vicki Davis - January 09, 2018 at 12:02 PM



“ I will never forget Dr. Musarra. He changed my life as a child and again as an adult. I am deeply saddened to have learned of his death. My prayers for his family, he was a gifted and wonderful man. God Bless you.

Liam Stewart - May 01, 2017 at 08:49 PM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. E. Anthony "Tony" Musarra.



March 24, 2017 at 08:11 AM



“ I met Tony several years ago when my dearest friends Joanna and Schiff got married, it was such a lovely fantastic party filled with love and happiness. Tony showed such generosity and welcomed us in to his home. Sita

Sita Ljungholm Verma - March 19, 2017 at 09:28 PM



“ Carole,
Even though I never had the pleasure of meeting Tony, I can tell by the tributes that he was a wonderful person. I am so sorry for your loss. I am in France now, but will be thinking of you today.

Ann McClendon - March 18, 2017 at 03:18 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. E. Anthony "Tony" Musarra.



March 17, 2017 at 03:34 PM



“ When I first met him at Marietta Surgical Center 23 years ago he was so kind and welcoming to the newby RN. Over the years, he remind kind and smiling always. He will be missed by many, including me.
Linda Connolly, RN

Linda Connolly - March 17, 2017 at 03:22 PM



“ Dorothy Golden Defrancia lit a candle in memory of Dr. E. Anthony "Tony" Musarra



Dorothy Golden Defrancia - March 17, 2017 at 03:06 PM



“ I am very saddened to hear the news of Dr. Musarra's passing. As I sit here and read his obituary, I cannot help to think that he would be very saddened to know that his 2 adopted sons Chris and Timmy were not mentioned at all. They were a part of his life that could not be replaced. Every time I think of the wonderful memories of Dr. Musarra, Chris and Timmy were a Big part of them. I will miss you dearly and please give those two a big hug from me! I will miss you but have comfort knowing that the three of you are having a BIG time. RIP my friend.

Walt Nelson - March 17, 2017 at 11:38 AM



“ Exactly Walt
Tiffany Thigpen - March 17, 2017 at 12:44 PM



“ we noticed that too Walt. Thanks
Elaine - March 17, 2017 at 12:50 PM



“ I am likely responsible for this as well. At the time we were working on the obituary, we were all naturally a little out of our minds. I feel fortunate that I even spelled my own name correctly. The fact that Chris and Tim were not mentioned was by no means intentional and they will be well represented in my speech at the funeral tomorrow. Thanks for noticing and sorry for the mix up.
Cheers
Schif Musarra
Schiaffino - March 17, 2017 at 01:05 PM



“ I have many great memories with Chris and Timmy. Chris and I were best friends at age 6 and 7. I remember Tony flew a kite with me and Chris in the early 1970's. Tony and I share a fraternal brotherhood as well, we both are Kappa Sigma's!!!! A.E.K.D.B. RIP Tony Love Zack
D. Zack Barfield - March 17, 2017 at 03:29 PM



“ Tony will be missed by a lot. Our kids grew up together. My daughters Andrea and Debbie would baby sit little Skiff. When Mama was out of town Tony would walk across the street with baby Skiff and his two older sons Chris and Timmy would follow and eat with us. Honestly, I think one of the main reasons he came over for was so that I could change little Skiff's diapers. You know how most men are about that. Just joking. He was such a wonderful husband and father. It really took a toll on him when Chris and Timmy passed away so I know that he is happy to see them once again in heaven and was so proud of his son Skiff. Tony you were such a wonderful friend, we love you and will miss you. May God be with your family RIP

Barbara Nelson Moody.
Barbara Nelson Moody - March 17, 2017 at 10:21 PM



“ Words cannot express the sorrow we feel about Tony's passing. What a great Friend and Godfather he was. So many memories to keep his spirit alive.
Sorry that the Obituary omitted that "Tony was preceded in death by his 2 SONS - Chris Musarra and Timmy Musarra.
Elaine & Adam Patrick

Elaine Patrick - March 17, 2017 at 10:51 AM



“ Two incredibly important parts of Uncle Tony's life and family were left out of this obituary-
His sons
Chris Musarra
Tim Musarra
Never to be forgotten and never to be dismissed
Chris and Timmy were adopted by Uncle Tony and he was a wonderful and loving Father to them.

Uncle Tony is one of the most loved men, our family memories were made all the sweeter by his love, laughter, spontaneity and example.
You'll always be in our hearts and memories - we will see you again in Heaven some sweet day - where you are already reunited with our beloved Chris and Timmy!



Tiffany Thigpen - March 17, 2017 at 10:37 AM



“ Tony was greatly loved and will be greatly missed. He made the world more beautiful in so many ways. I was blessed to work with him for several decades in several places but working for him at PSCS was the best job I ever. I will always remember his Zorro Halloween costume. He loved his family. His father was at Fort McPherson during the war and my father had his army physical by a little Italian doctor from up North, so Tony and I like to think his father gave my father his physical and now their children worked together. My father's name was also Elmer. He was more than a great surgeon, he was an artist. I also remember the day we had our CPR and ACLS recertification and the night before he and his former room mate had saved Dr. Espy. Tony wanted to know if he got extra points for that. He would light up any room he entered. You will be missed by many who lives were made better by meeting you. Well done Tony.

Cheryl H Bledsoe - March 17, 2017 at 05:40 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. E. Anthony "Tony" Musarra.



March 16, 2017 at 11:57 PM



“ Linda Smith Green purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. E. Anthony "Tony" Musarra.



Linda Smith Green - March 16, 2017 at 08:13 PM



“ Linda Green lit a candle in memory of Dr. E. Anthony "Tony" Musarra



Linda Green - March 16, 2017 at 06:56 PM