



William Andrew Cook

April 26, 1946 - December 24, 2020

William Andrew Cook, M.D. passed away on December 24th at Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas, after a prolonged illness. Dr. Cook was born in Charlotte, NC to the late Jane Timmons Cook York and A. J. Cook on April 26, 1946.

Dr. Cook grew up in Badin, North Carolina where he made lifelong friends including the late Roger Galloway. He attended Albemarle High School in Albemarle, NC. He served as a page in the U.S. Senate for Sam Ervin. He was the senior class president at Albemarle High School in 1964.

Dr. Cook, (Andy to many) attended college at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill where he received his bachelor's degree and ultimately, his M.D. in 1972. He did his surgery internship in Anatomical Pathology at Vanderbilt in Nashville, TN. He did residencies in Internal Medicine and Dermatology at the University of Texas Health Services. From 1975-1978, Dr. Cook was Director of St. Thomas Hospital Emergency Room. For over thirty years, Dr. Cook was owner and chief practitioner at Dermatology Associates in Houston. He was ably assisted and supported by his Office Manager, Barbara Nguyen, who provided many years of loving service. Her family accepted Dr. Cook as part of their family.

Dr. Cook was much loved by the patients he served. He was a good listener, a

pain-staking researcher and was never in a hurry. He spoke spanish and volunteered at a free clinic in the Hispanic section of town. He made everyone feel special because to Andy they were special. His style of medicine is rarely practiced anymore.

Andy had a passion for the mountains of North Carolina. For the past three years when most of his time was spent in and out of hospitals, he yearned to return to the people and places he loved in his youth. He returned often to visit his mother, Jane, when she was in a nursing home in Greensboro. A special thanks to Sara and Clyde Collins for the gracious use of their home and the support they provided to Andy and his mother.

Andy lived in Houston, Texas for over 40 years. He was preceded in death by his life partner, Bill Rios. Andy and Bill enjoyed the Houston Grand Opera, their life in the Museum District and dining out. They relished the variety of culinary offerings available to them in the Houston area. They both loved the many groups of friends who supported them, laughed with them and provided many hours of entertainment. A special thanks to David Alquist, Bill Minturn, and Glen Douglas for their love and support over the years.

Andy embraced Bill's family as if they were his own. Bill's brothers, Ron (Cyndy) and Tom (Carol) Rios, have served as helpmates to Andy after Bill's passing. He especially enjoyed his relationship with his chosen nephew, Austin Rios, and his chosen niece, Amanda Rios Place. Both were showered with many gifts of love over the years, especially at Christmas. Uncle Andy continued the Christmas tradition with Austin's child, Aja Rios, and took great pleasure in hearing about the lives of Amanda's children, Xander and Liam Place.

Andy is survived by cousins, Dr. Daphne Timmons of Charlotte, NC, Elizabeth Timmons and Patricia Kay Timmons of Tucson, Arizona, and stepbrother,

Michael (Pamela) York of Venice, Florida. The many childhood memories and experiences they shared were extended into adulthood. All of these were dear to Andy's heart.

A celebration of life virtual service will take place in the near future. Please contact Ron Rios, ronrios@bellsouth.net, if you would like to be notified when the service is scheduled. Andy's ashes, along with Bill's will be scattered in the mountains of North Carolina. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts in Andy's honor may be made to the Houston Grand Opera or the charity of your choice.

Tribute Wall



“ *My name is Karen Cauble
My Mom
Paulette Cauble
Maiden name Braswell graduated with him from Albemarle High
School in North Carolina in 1964*

Karen Cauble - May 13 at 07:15 PM



“ *William Andrew Cook*

July 20, 2022 at 05:14 PM

AD

“*Dr. Cook was our cherished physician. I so admired the way he dealt with my children. I had taken them in to have a wart removed, and the subject of sunscreen came up. My son, who was very fair skin with blonde hair, was 8 or 9 at the time and very obstinate about wearing sunscreen. Dr Cook, having read their medical history, saw that my husband had had melanoma. He told them that for them, since their father had had melanoma, going outside without sunscreen was equivalent to playing on the freeway. Sunscreen was never an issue again.*

Another time that I particularly valued the way he understood kids, involved the same child but, by this time he was 12 or 13. He was having acne, but that wasn't why we were there. Dr Cook asked him if he were bothered by his acne, and my son said he wasn't, so Dr. Cook dropped it. As an aside, he told me that if he weren't bothered by his acne, there wasn't any point in telling him what he could do about it. I truly appreciated that he had this awareness.

I'm thankful that we knew him.

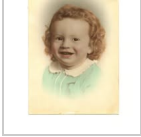
Anne Davis - March 01, 2021 at 11:21 AM

AB

“*My heart breaks but smiles for your life to move forward. Meeting Dr. Cook was a blessing, he will be missed. My condolences to you all.*



Ava Blackwell - January 22, 2021 at 09:26 PM



“ *Andy was a lifelong friend to my first cousin Roger Galloway and Roger's entire family. I met him briefly when visiting Roger more than 60 years ago but had heard about him from Roger on many occasions. If his kindness to Roger is any indication, he was an extraordinary man whose life touched everyone he met. My sympathy to his family and many friends.*

Mike Mauney - January 16, 2021 at 03:13 PM



“ *My sincere condolences to all who love Dr. Cook. He was indeed a wonderful and caring man. Although I only knew him for a short time and within the hospital setting, he continued to let his light shine until the end. May his memory continue to bless those who knew him.*
Dr. Rose



Natasha Rose - January 04, 2021 at 08:49 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Obit photo*



Tom Rios - December 26, 2020 at 01:59 PM



He was such an astonishing amazing man. He will be missed...He was loved by many and remembered by all he came across. I will miss you friend.

Ava Blackwell - January 22, 2021 at 09:46 PM

BG

My husband first met Dr. Cook during his residency at UT in 1980, and when Dr. Cook opened his practice, our whole family had the privilege of entrusting Dr. Cook with our care. Dr. Cook was a superb clinician and a wonderful human being, treating his patients with dignity, warmth and compassion. He was conscientious beyond compare, and had a gift for making patients feel comfortable while raising their consciousness about the dangers of sun exposure - who can ever forget the series of pictures he used to illustrate "ugly ducklings" after the end of annual skin check exams? Truly a kind, curious and noble human being who loved people, the arts, nature and puzzling over the world. Ever grateful, Dr. Cook!

Beatrice Graham - January 25, 2021 at 12:50 PM

BS

My father, Herbert Coleman, was a patient of Dr. Cook and he admired him greatly. When my father had a melanoma on his face, Dr. Cook took excellent care of him and reassured our family that he would be fine. My dad used to say "Dr. Cook is the dermatologist all the other doctors want to use when they need a dermatologist". He was a beautiful person, inside and out. He will be sorely missed.

Beverly Staten - April 22, 2022 at 08:26 PM

PP

Dr. Cook treated our family for many decades. He was brilliant, enthusiastic, warm, and caring. He had a keen love for people and for his work. He will truly be missed, and we will never forget him.

Paige Phillips - December 13, 2022 at 09:36 AM