



Alvin L. Bowles MD

November 8, 1947 - February 8, 2020

Dr. Alvin Bowles, renowned retired pulmonologist at Henry Ford Hospital Detroit passed on Saturday morning February 8th in his home.

*Beloved son, brother, husband, father, uncle, grandfather, friend,

>> colleague. Alvin Leander Bowles, Sr. wore many hats and touched countless

>> lives. The journey of our remarkable Alvin began in Skelton, West Virginia,

>> a small coal-mining town outside of Beckley. He was born on November 8,

>> 1947 to parents Larry, a coal miner, and Gladys (Holland), a homemaker.

>> Alvin and his four siblings, Joyce, Wilda, Jane, and David, grew up in a

>> home filled with deep love and great food. A lifelong lover of books and

>> stories, Alvin was a voracious reader, enjoying the works of Langston

>> Hughes, Edgar Allen Poe, and especially Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's

Sherlock

>> Holmes series. He studied classic literature and poetry and loved music,

>> from opera to Motown—passions he would later share with his children

and

>> grandchildren.*

>>

>> *Alvin showed leadership skills at an early age at Stratton High School

>> as class president, captain of the football team and class valedictorian.

>> An exceptional and motivated student, he started his college education at

>> West Virginia University for one year, then later matriculated at Wayne

>> State University when his entire family migrated North to Detroit,
>> Michigan. His deep fascination with science and capacity for
>> problem-solving led him to pursue a career in medicine, graduating with
>> honors from Wayne State Medical School. He chose the dynamic field of
>> pulmonology, because he always remembered as a boy how hard it was
for the
>> coal miners to breathe and wanting to help them.*

>>

>> *Alvin went on to become the first African-American Pulmonary Fellow at
>> the University of Pennsylvania, passing his internal medicine, surgery and
>> pulmonary boards with distinction. Wanting to be close to family, he chose
>> to practice medicine in Michigan at the Detroit Medical Center,
>> Harper-Hutzel University Hospital, and finally retired from Henry Ford
>> Hospital after more than 50 years of lifetime medical service. It is
>> important to note that later in his career he became thought leader in the
>> often ignored specialty of Sarcoidosis, an inflammatory disease most
common
>> in the lungs and lymph glands. Alvin's medical legacy is centered on the
>> development of new protocols for patient care.*

>>

>> *Alvin earned numerous leadership posts in his incredible career,
>> including head of the Ethics Commission at Henry Ford Hospital, active
>> contributor to the Hastings Center Bioethics Research Institute, and a
>> member of the Global Commission on Medical Ethics in China. Known as
one to
>> make friends wherever he visited, many international locals assumed he
was
>> a visiting celebrity. Warm and gregarious, Dr. Bowles truly enjoyed posing
>> with growing groups of paparazzi and signing autographs as Denzel
>> Washington.*

>>

>> *Alvin met the love of his life at age 5, when Gwen moved two doors down
>> from his family. Despite graduating from high school together in 1965, they
>> did not go on their first date until they were in their early 20s and
>> married shortly thereafter in 1972. They shared work and home at Hutzel
>> Hospital, where Gwen served as Head Nurse, supporting Alvin through
medical
>> school. A year and a half later, Alvin Jr. was born, followed two years
>> later by sister Makyha-Tiana. As a family, they moved onto UPenn's
campus
>> before permanently settling down in Michigan. Alvin was a devoted and
>> passionate family man, and his children were his pride and joy. He
stressed
>> the value of education, impressing upon Alvin Jr. and Makyha-Tiana the
>> importance of excellence and achievement without compromising
integrity.*

>>

>> *One of Alvin's greatest passions was photography. He would spend
>> countless hours in the dark room he built in the basement of the family's
>> Southfield home, at camera shows with his crew, shooting nature in
>> Kensington Park, and capturing the unscripted moments of everyday
family
>> life. He loved sharing his craft with family and friends who would proudly
>> display his art. He was a big fan of the work of renowned artists Diego
>> Rivera, Ansel Adams and Jerry Prettyman.*

>>

>> *A lifelong lover of sports, Alvin took up cycling with the Wolverine
>> Sports Club, racing in numerous events in Michigan and Colorado. His
>> competitive and enthusiastic spirit was a driving force in everything he
>> did—from serving as Detroit Country Day's team doctor on his son's
football

>> and lacrosse teams, hosting ping pong tournaments in the family's basement,
>> and coaching his daughter in track and field. *

>>

>> *Alvin was equally devoted to his church community. As a long-standing
>> member of Highland Park Baptist Church since 1981, Alvin dutifully served
>> in a number of roles, from nursery school volunteer to deacon board member.

>> However, his most cherished work with the church was serving as a medical
>> missionary twice in Uganda and taking an Old Testament tour in Israel.*

>>

>> *His most recent role, grandparent, coalesced all of his life's hopes and
>> dreams. He was the proudest grandfather, known to share endless photographs
>> and stories with friends and strangers alike (and had T-shirts custom-made
>> showcasing his role as a "spoiling" grandpa). He made countless trips to
>> visit his grandchildren, enjoying school plays and graduations, and most
>> memorably, family trips to Martha's Vineyard—always with his camera in tow.

>> The family images he captured are a priceless record we treasure. He
>> remains a profound example for all of the highest devotion and unyielding
>> love. His life's mantra was, "A dedicated life: No Reserve! No Retreat! No
>> Regret!"*

>>

>> *Alvin is survived by his loving wife, Gwendolyn L. Bowles; devoted son,
>> Alvin L. Bowles, Jr., wed to Terri P. Bowles; adoring daughter,
>> Makyha-Tiana B. Holt (Bowles), wed to Michael A. Holt; grandchildren
Kayla
>> Marie Bowles, Sydney Josephine Bowles, Maxson Isaac Holt, Maddox
Emmanuel

>> Holt; his sisters, Joyce Bly and Wilda Freeman; sister-in-law, Barbara Jean
>> Penn; brother-in-law and best friend, Master Chief Rev. Alfred E. Harvey,
>> Sr., wed to Starella Harvey; dedicated nieces and nephews who
considered
>> him a second father; and a host of cousins, family, friends, former
>> colleagues and patients.*

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>> *Quote and Scripture for the Program*

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>> *From Maya Angelou's "When Great Trees Fall"*

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>> *And when great souls die*

>>

>> *after a period peace blooms,*

>>

>> *slowly and always irregularly.*

>>

>> *Spaces fill with a kind of*

>>

>> *soothing electric vibration.*

>>

>> *Our senses, restored, never*

>>

>> *to be the same, whisper to us.*

>>

>> *They existed. They existed.*

>>

>> *We can be. *

>>

>> *Be and be better. *

>>

>> *For they existed.*

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>> *-----*

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>> *"Be faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."*

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>> *–Revelation 2:10*

Cemetery Details

Acacia Park Cemetery

31300 Southfield Road
Beverly Hills, MI 48025

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 14. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services
24585 Evergreen Rd
Southfield, MI 48075
(248) 702-5367
info@kempfh.com
<https://www.kempfuneralhome.com>

Family Hour

FEB 15. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Highland Park Baptist Church
28600 Lahser Rd
Southfield, MI 48034

Funeral Service

FEB **15**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Highland Park Baptist Church
28600 Lahser Rd
Southfield, MI 48034

Tribute Wall



“ *I miss Alvin, he was a special person and I always enjoyed his visits to the camera store I worked at.*

Donald Jones - February 06, 2025 at 10:40 AM

CS

“ *Chandra Soto lit a candle in memory of Alvin L. Bowles MD*



Chandra Soto - July 29, 2024 at 09:40 PM

ST

“ *Doctor Bowles was my doctor for many years. I have fairly serious health issues and was very concerned about my overall ability to manage. I looked forward to my visits with him because he gave me hope hope that helped me have the courage. To keep fighting for good healthcare, the hope to understand my condition and live in a way that I could conquer it best that I can and hope to hold my head up and continue my career and continue to contribute to society. I remember going to the opera and seeing doc and his beautiful wife there. I am forever grateful to this wonderful doctor he will always be part of a person that I hold in high esteem and God bless his family He will truly be missed he was my doctor*

Sheila Thomas - September 09, 2023 at 09:17 AM



“ *Alvin L. Bowles MD*

September 27, 2022 at 08:40 PM



“ Alvin L. Bowles MD

September 27, 2022 at 06:52 PM



“ In 1996 Dr Bowles entered my hospital room with a group of doctors to discuss my lung condition. After the discussion, he picked up my Bible and turned to philippians 4:6 and said read this. I was able to remind him of that day (which he didn't remember 😊) years later when I saw him in the waiting area of the pulmonary department and I told him that the scripture from that day forward has become a foundation scripture that I stand on everyday. RIH Dr Bowles. God Bless You!

Sharon Gilmore - April 20, 2022 at 07:47 PM

PM

I was saddened to learn Dr Bowles had passed away, remembering how after years of going to doctors with various ongoing symptoms, Dr. Bowles diagnosed the first illness, and I was skeptical because to me, I didn't have the symptoms of asthma that he diagnosed, but the medication he prescribed worked perfectly. So then, I went back to Dr. Bowles with my other symptoms and the Dr listened and leaned back in his chair and with face in his hand, told me he was going to refer me to another dr. As instructed, I saw this neurologist who almost immediately after listening to my symptoms told me that I had MS. I didn't believe her either and told her as much. Like Dr Bowles, she patiently listened to my denial and she asked me to wait while she retrieved a pamphlet and asked me to read it. Amazingly, everything I had complained about was in that pamphlet. It was as if the author had interviewed me to write. The doctors had solved the mysteries of my illnesses with 3 or 4 visits after my telling drs for years the same symptoms without any diagnosis. Only because, Dr. Bowles took the time to listen, was I diagnosed in both instances was I finally diagnosed and I am often reminded of, Dr Bowles' intelligence and capacity to listen when so many doctors hadn't. I am forever grateful. Dr Bowles was a problem solving humanitarian who will be greatly missed. So sorry that his work was done. My comment is late, but I kept feeling the need to express my condolences to the family and friends of Dr Alvin Bowles Sr. May he R.I.P.

Penelope Mitchell - January 28, 2023 at 12:37 PM

LB

“*Dr. Bowles loved his family, U of M, his BMW 2 seater and he was a cyclist. He my doctor for 4 yrs and I looked forward to the visits. Because, we talked sports and him his wife to Martha Vineyards while on vacation with his family. Wow..he was my guy! Very down to earth...but, don't be late for an appointment. You're SOL with him. 😊 will be missed. Condolences to the Bowles family just heard about his passing today.*

Larry Baker - November 09, 2021 at 12:42 PM

MH

“ I am his first grandson I love that he would try to keep me and my younger brother st of trouble its been almost a full year since we've lost him.

Maxson Holt - January 22, 2021 at 02:37 PM

KR

“ A role model, colleague, friend and fellow church member. Most important, just a good man of Christ. Our family will support a plague in the Afro American Museum on your behalf and memory. The Rivers Family.

Khalil Rivers - July 05, 2020 at 03:44 PM



Charles
Todoroff

“ In 1977 I was a terrified intern at Hutzel Hospital in the Detroit Medical Center. Shortly, I met this wonderful man and I began to feel at home. His smile, his light hearted approach to a challenging care environment, and his amazing capabilities were on display. I shall never forget.

Charles Todoroff, MD

Charles Todoroff - March 06, 2020 at 07:39 AM



“ Great man and doctor, we'll all miss him. I was lucky enough to rotate on his floor at Henry Ford for a couple months in the late 1990's. One of Dr. Bowles's anti-smoking tactics was to tell smokers that if they didn't quit, they'd end up buying him a Mercedes. :)

Anup Sinha - March 05, 2020 at 03:08 PM



“ Sorry to hear this sad news this morning 😞 Dr Bowles was my pulmonary Doctor for six years up to his retirement day he was always a spiritual uplifting person to me I enjoyed every talk we had during my visit no matter what subject the conversation was about when I left out his office my day was grand R.I.H. Dr Bowles sending my deepest condolences to his family

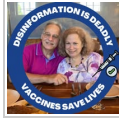
Lisa Martin - March 04, 2020 at 10:40 AM

PG

“ We met Alvin and Gwen in 1981 while attending a week-long photography workshop in Putney, VT. As we each had young children and couldn't be housed in the normal school type dormitory, we lived in a small house that was more conducive for families. This gave us the wonderful opportunity for us and our kids to quickly get to know each other. By the end of the week we knew that we would be life-long friends. For years after, we would spend hours discussing darkroom techniques and photographic minutia while our wives would roll their eyes and laugh at Alvin's jokes. Not being physicians, we didn't know Alvin professionally, but knowing the incredibly kind, gentle, and special person that he was, we just knew he was a wonderful doctor. His passing is truly a loss to humanity. Our love goes out to Gwen, Alvin, Jr, and Makyha-Tiana.

Peter & Mary Lou Greenfield

Peter Greenfield - February 23, 2020 at 11:59 AM



Alvin was my medical resident as a senior medical student on rotations at Hutzel hospital and together with Ron Natale, Larry Leischman and others formed a nucleus of outstanding teaching physicians. Dr. Bowles taught me how to do my first thoracentesis at the bedside it was so welcoming to students who are unsure of themselves in an era where that kind of attitude from residence was not always forthcoming. Dr. Bowles taught me how to do my first thoracentesis at the bedside & he was so welcoming to students who are unsure of themselves in an era where that kind of attitude from residence was not always forthcoming. We did not keep in touch after I left the state but still have great memories of his kind and caring demeanor. He was an inspiration to all of those around him. Michael Harris MD

Michael Harris - March 05, 2020 at 03:59 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. Doc was always a bright ray of sunshine whenever he dropped by the camera store. Everyone smiled when they saw him and we enjoyed our conversations, whether about camera equipment and photography or music, pens, cars or whatever the matter of the day. He will be missed.*

Dennis Knoerl - February 18, 2020 at 03:23 PM

JM

“ *So very sad to learn of your loss. I have the fondest of memories of Dr. Bowles from when he was at Harper Hospital, he was so friendly and welcoming to me as a junior attending. He was a true gentleman and a scholar, a real mensch! And I remember our conversations about fountain "writing instruments"! May his memory be an inspiration to us all.*

James Sondheimer, MD - February 16, 2020 at 08:42 PM

GS

JESUS MY HEART IS BROKEN BUT MY FAITH IS STRONG
DR. BOWLES WERE A TRUE MAN OF GOD. I NEARLY DIED AND
DR
BOWLES SAID GEORGIA GOD N I GOT U. HE SHOWED ME
PHOTOS OF HIS BEAUTIFUL FAMILY. MRS. BOWLES HE WERE
THE BEST. I THANK GOD FOR THIS DOCTOR WHO ALWAYS PUT
GOD FIRST. HIS KINDNESS WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN. TEARS
TEARS TEARS. THANK YOU FR. BOWLES. 🥹🥹🥹🥹🥹

Georgia Snow - February 23, 2020 at 11:54 PM

SB

“ I met Dr Alvin and his wife years ago. I was a close friend of his sister Jane Rogers. I last saw he and Gwen when I was in Detroit last year to see Janie. It was an honor to have met Dr Alvin. My condolences go out to Gwen, their children, grandchildren and family. He will be missed by many. May he Rest In Peace.

Sheila Bankston - February 15, 2020 at 04:09 PM

ZA

“ I was a resident on service with Dr. Bowles at Henry Ford Hospital. Rounds were fun and enjoyable to say the least. “What’s the serum albumin?” he would often say. I am a cardiologist now and 2011 seems like it was just yesterday. I miss you Dr. Bowles. My condolences to your family. You will be missed. Always.

Zaid A - February 15, 2020 at 11:30 AM

CR

“ I met Dr. Bowles and his wife for the first time recently at the U of M Business School. His son, Alvin, was making a career presentation to the graduate students. Dr. Bowles and his wife both stood up from their seats to meet me and were so warm and friendly. They were both so proud of their son, Alvin, and seeing him on stage guiding younger people on their career decisions. A very fond memory of Dr. and Mrs. Bowles! Charles Reagan

Charles Reagan - February 15, 2020 at 08:16 AM

TB

“ I am one of Alvin's sisters-in-law . I married Alvin's brother, David. I made the right decision! Not only did I have a good husband, but I also gained a good family! When I met Alvin and Gwen, at their home, they welcomed me to the family. They me feel like family! Those were not just Words, they showed it by their actions. For example, when my sister's baby daughter died due to SIDS, my sister not only got support from her family, but received support also from Alvin and Gwen, Joyce and Billy, Janey and Oliver and Wilda. They also attended the funeral which was over an hour away! This was so remarkable that my Uncle was deeply impressed because He never forgot it! Speaking of my Uncle, I called him yesterday to tell him the bad news of Alvin's death. My Uncle cried. He then proceeded to speak about Alvin. My Uncle called Alvin an angel! He went on to explain. He said: "I'll never forget the kindness Alvin showed my Mother. My Mother was taken to the Henry Ford hospital, but they had trouble finding her an available room. When Alvin, Dr. Bowles, found out about it, he found her not just a room, but a private room! He assisted her in treating her lung condition and as my Uncle says "extended her life by 6 years!

Tia Bowles - February 15, 2020 at 12:17 AM

WM

“ So sorry for your loss its been a long time since I saw Alvin but I never forgot him, we are cousins and we were around each other a lot when we were small. He will be missed by a lot of people. I will keep the rest of your family in my Prayers

Wanda Martin - February 14, 2020 at 10:57 PM

LW

“ So very sorry for your loss. Praying for the entire Bowles family. Love you all so much. Linda Wells

Linda Wells - February 14, 2020 at 06:34 PM

SN

“ Alvin,
Sorry for your lost my brother. Prayers and condolences to you and your family.

Shahid, Pamela and the boys

Shahid Najee-ullah - February 14, 2020 at 04:58 PM

CL

“ Prayers for strength for the entire Bowles Family. You have our support.
Clive & Keeba Henry

Clive - February 14, 2020 at 02:51 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.*



February 14, 2020 at 02:24 PM



“ *Alvin,*

Very sorry to hear of your loss. Phillipa and I wanted to send condolences to you and your family. Take care Brother!
Kent Wilson

Kent Wilson - February 14, 2020 at 01:10 PM



“ *Tragic. To the family, know that he was one of the nicest gentlemen I have ever encountered - always extended a hand and a smile for a greeting. I will never forget this extraordinary man. He truly was a gift to humanity.*

May he journey in peace.

Ralph - February 14, 2020 at 11:29 AM



“ *Darlene Coleman, Loverine Whitlow, Velma Smyre purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.*



Darlene Coleman, Loverine Whitlow, Velma Smyre - February 14, 2020 at 09:41 AM

DB

“ Dale & Davina Burnett purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.



Dale & Davina Burnett - February 14, 2020 at 09:23 AM

AW

“ My heart is so heavy trying to process the passing of Dr. Bowles. He was my Sarcoidosis Pulmonary Specialist for many years before his retirement. His knowledge of Sarcoidosis was unmatched by many and he was totally dedicated to the advancement of Sarcoidosis and the care of his patients. Dr. Bowles sat the bar high on what we as patients should expect and demand from our doctors and that empowered us to be active participants in our care.

As the founder of Caring Hands Sarcoidosis Foundation I was blessed to always have Dr. Bowles advice, encouragement and participation at all of our events, he was without a doubt our #1 supporter.

*My family and I extend our deepest condolences and prayers to Mrs. Bowles and the entire family.
Dr. Bowles was loved deeply by all of us in the Sarcoidosis community and will be missed.*

Allison Walker - February 13, 2020 at 11:12 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.*



February 13, 2020 at 08:49 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.*



February 13, 2020 at 05:35 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.*



February 13, 2020 at 04:17 PM



“ *T and Ella Colvin purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.*



T and Ella Colvin - February 13, 2020 at 01:56 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.*



February 13, 2020 at 12:50 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.*



February 13, 2020 at 10:25 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.*



February 13, 2020 at 05:01 AM

DK

“ I first met Dr. Bowles when I was assigned as a case manager on F2 at Henry Ford Hospital. During the rotations, Residents couldn't wait to have Dr. Bowles as the Attending Physician that month. I found out why...he was so personal; down to earth; and always had a great story and teaching moment. I worked with him at Henry Ford for 2 years, but remained in contact with him for the next 17 yrs. He was very inspirational. My condolences to the family. I pray that the Lord will grant peace during this difficult time. You are loved and missed Dr. Bowles.

Derrick Kirkwood - February 12, 2020 at 05:06 PM

SS

“ Sincerely Rick and Gail Smith purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.



Sincerely Rick and Gail Smith - February 12, 2020 at 02:52 PM

-S

“ - Lev Kaye and Jennifer Singer purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.



- Lev Kaye and Jennifer Singer - February 12, 2020 at 02:13 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.*



February 12, 2020 at 10:56 AM



“ *I offer my deep condolences to Dr. Bowles' family at this time. We were on the Ethics Committee together at Harper Hospital and we shared many patients. We took an ethics course together at Georgetown. So my wonderful memories of him are embedded in the ethical way he lived his professional life. He had a great personality and wonderful sense of humor. He was a very special human being.*

Mary Sieggreen

Mary Sieggreen - February 12, 2020 at 10:34 AM



I first met Alvin when we were Residents at old Hutzel Hospital, (he in Internal medicine, and I in Ob/Gyn). Through the years I met his loving wife, Gwen and his two beautiful children. My wife and I would socialize with the Bowles very frequently. My daughter actually was Alvin, Jr's prom date in high school. I have such wonderful memories of Alvin. He was a special person. He always had a smile on his face. A kind soul who was respected by all. My deepest condolences to his family. I'm happy to call him my friend. Love. Ron Cheek.

Ron Cheek - February 12, 2020 at 01:20 PM



“ A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.



February 12, 2020 at 09:27 AM



“ My deepest condolences to the Family. I worked with Dr Bowles at Harper for several years. He was compassionate, caring, available to all --staff, patients and families. I will treasure the memories of our time together

Antoinette Renaud-Tessier - February 12, 2020 at 09:08 AM



“ Dr. Bowles was my doctor for years. He was a selfless man who cared about his patients, his church family, doctors without borders and of course his loving wife and children. RIH Dr. B.....you are so well respected and will be missed by many!



Marsha. M - February 11, 2020 at 11:21 PM



“ The good doctor provided exceptional care to one of my family members. I can imagine that Doc never met a stranger-he entertained us like we were angels-with warm care and concern. I thank God for having the pleasure of meeting him. RIH Dr. Bowles!!



Michelle - February 11, 2020 at 10:43 PM

-H

“ - Thoracic Radiologists at Henry Ford Hospital. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.



- Thoracic Radiologists at Henry Ford Hospital. - February 11, 2020 at 10:22 PM

NR

“ As an intern, he once brought me into his office, where there was picture of him in a karate uniform hanging on the wall. He pointed to it and reassured me that he really was a “bad ass”. Loved his humor and his charm. RIP

nick reeser - February 11, 2020 at 08:54 PM

CL

“ I want to give my heartfelt sympathy to the family of Dr. Bowles. He was a kind and caring physician who was well loved by patients and staff. He loved his family dearly and always spoke about his grandkids with great affection. He will be missed.

Charisse Lukaszek - February 11, 2020 at 07:07 PM

VJ

Dr Bowles was one of a kind..that smile ...his stories..his grandkids . Truly will be miss

vivian johnson - February 11, 2020 at 07:32 PM

CC

My sincere condolences to Gwen and the entire family. I remember Dr. Bowles as being one of the most down to earth individual- he always had a smile when you saw him, he showed professionalism and compassion to everyone. My most memorable moment was when he would return from vacation (Martha's Vineyard) he would always come and show me pictures of his family - especially his grand children - he was so proud of them, he would always mention that he also saw Barak Obama and his family very proudly. I am truly going to miss him.

I pray that God provide Gwen and the entire family the strength needed during this time.

Candy Coleman

Candace Coleman - February 12, 2020 at 08:59 AM

HA

“*My most sincere condolences to Gwen, Alvin jr. and Makia I remember before he became a Doctor we would all go camping and fishing with Jim Expose and our kids, the wine tasting and dinner parties we take turns having at each other's home. The photography and the fine writing instruments (pen) that Alvin and I shared to the extreme.*

Alvin was what Doctors are supposed to be caring, loving and humble with his patients, I know because a couple of times I saw him not as and old friend but a patient. He had a good seance of humor and made us all laugh at his jokes and stories be it around the camp fire, picnic, or out to dinner with our spouse's, he was a great friend who will for be remembered by us all.

Much Love my brother, until we see one another again under much better life circumstances for this GOD has Promise.

Harold Alford - February 11, 2020 at 06:55 PM

TG

“ *The Monday Night Football League Rotation Gang purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.*



The Monday Night Football League Rotation Gang - February 11, 2020 at 06:26 PM

LM

“ *He was the best and the brightest - our valedictorian. Throughout our high school days, he was already demonstrating amazing wit, knowledge, and skills. I remember teasing that he had a huge brain, but an even bigger heart. It was no surprise that he went on to have a wonderful medical career. He and Gwen will always have special places in the memories of the SHS class of '65.*

Our condolences and prayers are with the family now and in the days to come.

Lois Manns - February 11, 2020 at 04:07 PM

RS

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. I had many great conversations with Dr. Bowles about cameras and photography, and he had such a passion for it. He always had a nicer camera than the HFHS photography team, and we all felt very warmly towards him. He will be missed.*

Riva Sayegh-McCullen - February 11, 2020 at 03:23 PM

SM

“ Dear Bowles family-
I met Dr. Bowles in 2015, my first time ever working in a hospital and knowing nothing about all of the various subspecialties of pulmonary let alone his vast knowledge of Sarcoidosis. He was the most spirit filled man I have met in many years and I never heard an angry word, only just a chuckle and a calm voice. I too loved hearing his opera and hearing his missionary stories. We share Sherlock Holmes, which was the best actor. He talked about you all of the time, the grandkids, New York, Grandma camp and how he didn't like grocery shopping. We loved to watch him write with his special pens. He was missed when he retired, but now he won't be visiting us either so we will miss him all over again. My prayers are with you all, he was a special man.
Sharron McDougall-Dey

Sharron McDougall-Dey - February 11, 2020 at 02:09 PM

SM

We were so very sorry to hear of the passing of Dr Bowles. Our parents were not only neighbors but also dear friends. Our father, Mike, had almost an extra year of life because of Dr. Bowles rapid medical assistance. We all enjoyed any time we spent with your beautiful family. May the memories be forever a blessing.
Suretta and Alan Must

suretta and Alan Must - February 11, 2020 at 05:35 PM

TR

“ Dr. Bowles was full of knowledge and stories. Because of him I use "writing instruments" and not pens. Dr. Bowles will be missed.

Tiffany Rambus - February 11, 2020 at 02:09 PM

JU

“ Dear Bowles Family,

My Sincere condolences. Dr. Bowles was an amazing person and physician. I had the pleasure of knowing him as a patient at HFH. He never forgot me when he came to our department; we always caught up and he was always smiling and cheerful. I just saw him not to long ago; around December 2019. He was enjoying retirement and all the time with his family. He will truly be missed and I will forever cherish the memories he left on my heart :) God Bless.

Julianne Vitale-Kuhn (Hall)

Julianne - February 11, 2020 at 01:54 PM

FF

“ From the Richards' Family purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.



From the Richards' Family - February 11, 2020 at 01:48 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.



February 11, 2020 at 01:36 PM

KL

“ Mrs. Bowles, I am so saddened by Dr. Bowles' passing. My heart is aching. I previously worked with Dr. Bowles in Pulmonary at HFH. He always had a smile, spoke of you, his children and grandchildren with such pride and joy. He will truly be missed by all who knew him or met him. May he Rest in Peace with the Lord!

Sincerely,

Kelly (Meeks) Lupo

Kelly Lupo - February 11, 2020 at 01:31 PM

DA

“ he was the best friend we had a good time when we where in Israel
dick anderson
he will be missed by many we loved him

dick anderson - February 11, 2020 at 12:53 PM

TE

“ Dr. Bowles was an amazing man and an even better doctor. He saved my life last year and I couldn't thank him enough for the precious time he spent with me. He is so going to be missed by many. Prayers to his family and friends.

Teresa - February 11, 2020 at 12:20 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.



February 11, 2020 at 10:34 AM

JE

“ James Expose purchased the Love Everlasting Bouquet for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.



James Expose - February 11, 2020 at 10:13 AM

MB

“ Al was a very well respected physician and pulmonologist. As a caregiver to my mother-in-law he was kind and gentle as he was with all of his patients. As a colleague and friend, Al always had a kind word and a joyous personality.

I Will Truly Miss You, May You Rest In Peace Al

Manny Brown

manny Brown - February 11, 2020 at 09:59 AM

KD

“ Sympathies to the family, especially the grandchildren, of Dr. Bowles. He loved you dearly. I so enjoyed listening to him talk about food, music, and his photographs. Sometimes I just hung around outside his office to listen to his music. He knew how to enjoy life and had the smile to show for it. A good, Godly, man who always put his patients first and worked tirelessly to get them the care they needed. He is dearly missed in the Pulmonary Dept. of Henry Ford.

Kim Dempsey - February 11, 2020 at 09:40 AM

TH

“ Working with Dr. Bowles in the short time I did was a blessing. He will be missed.

Theodosia Hargrove - February 11, 2020 at 08:24 AM

LA

“ I will truly miss him Dr. Bowles a very good Doctor I came a long way with my illness if it wasn't for him I would've been here he was a doctor that care about his patients

Latina Alford - February 11, 2020 at 05:40 AM

TF

“ Dr. Bowles was my Late Husband's Pulmonary Physician. He was Ethical, Informative, Warm, and Welcoming. When my Husband passed away 11 years ago Dr. Bowles signed the Certificate and Took the time to speak with me offering his Condolences. He's an irreplaceable asset to the Medical Field and Sarcoidosis Community. My Family and I mourn his passing with countless others.

Well Done Dr. Bowles, May You Rest In Peace 🙏💜
With Love, The Jefferson Family 🙏



The Jefferson Family - February 11, 2020 at 03:51 AM

AH

“ I was a patient of Dr. Bowles. I was introduced to him by my college buddy, who at the time was a social worker at Henry Ford. That was the best thing that could've happened to me because Dr. Bowles was the best doctor I've ever had in my life...hands down!! Dr. Bowles, no one can take your place and you will be missed dearly! Unbelievable 😭

Anwar Hankerson - February 11, 2020 at 12:49 AM

SS

“ I met Dr. Bowles as a scared sick patient. I was so frustrated and full of fear. I can only tell you that I left as an informed patient and no longer scared. He was always a great inspiration to me. He always had a story and we talked about our families and about life in general. He complained about the computer and having to enter so much data. I recall he wanted to talk with us instead of fill in data. Dr. Bowles was a great inspiration and I can see him now smiling at me with such a grin and telling me that I was going to be okay! He loved his family so much and he loved his Church and our shared faith in God. May you Rest In Eternal Peace. You were truly a remarkable man. My sincere condolences.

sharon Skupski - February 11, 2020 at 12:01 AM

KR

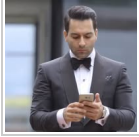
“ Dr Bowles-you were a true “Michigan Man”. I loved our talks and hearing your opera music while working in my office. Rest in heaven. God bless your family. You are missed.

Karen Rampp - February 10, 2020 at 11:36 PM

EG

“ Saddened to hear these news. A truly amazing teacher and human being. Dr. Bowles was the first attending I worked with during my residency, and I remember his rounds, bedside manner and sense of humor very fondly. My deepest condolences to his family. May he Rest In Peace.

Enrique Garcia-Sayan - February 10, 2020 at 11:35 PM



“ *With a heavy heart I read these comments... In my short time at Ford, we'd talk about cycling, martial-arts, sarcoidosis, photography, and the "art" of bad movies. Always smiling, always joking, and always teaching, Dr. Bowles, may you RIP, and know that I always read the chest xray first because of you. Peace to you and your family, Sir.*

Kamy Bokes - February 10, 2020 at 11:06 PM

CR

“ *...I had the pleasure of rounding with Dr. Bowles on F2 and in the pulmonary clinic. Thank you Dr Bowles for your commitment to the medical education of medical students, residents and fellows. You will be deepest missed! The halls of Henry Ford Hospital will never be the same.*

My deepest condolences to his family.

Rest In Peace, Dr Bowles.

Celine Rivera - February 10, 2020 at 10:54 PM

HC

“ *I will never forget that Al was the first staff that took me for a ride to see Detroit during my initial interview and then to eat at Mr Mikes his favorite. His interaction helped me decide to stay and work at Henry Ford as he was nice, genuine and joyful. I spent 12 years sharing daily conversations and arguments. He was always a person you could talk to and he would listen. Great friend. Will be sorely missed.*

Hector Cajigas

Hector Cajigas - February 10, 2020 at 10:37 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.*



February 10, 2020 at 10:22 PM



“ *As a sometimes “brash” young surgeon, Alvin was an inspiring example of intelligence, judgment, caring and strength tempered with amazing gentleness, grace and humility. I remember and still repeat many lessons learned from this great physician, teacher and mentor. Rest In Peace my friend and colleague~*

Robert Brewer - February 10, 2020 at 10:20 PM



“ *Sending prayers to the family...I worked with Dr.Bowles for quite a few years at Harper Hospital, before he left to work at Henry Ford Hospital. His bedside manner and mutual respect for coworkers, as well as patients and their families was genuine and unsurpassed. He'll certainly be missed 💔.*

Beatrice Hawkins - February 10, 2020 at 10:14 PM



“ *Dr. Bowles was a great physician and amazing mentor that thought me much more than medicine. He would always find a way to solve issues professionally, as real gentlemen's do. I am so deeply saddened that he is not with us any more but he will always be remembered! May he Rest In Peace. Sincere condolences to his family that he loved so much.*

Davorka Nikolic - February 10, 2020 at 09:57 PM

KB

“ *Dr. Bowles was a wonderful physician and individual who dedicated himself to providing excellent care to those around him! He is irreplaceable will be remembered for years to come.*

Karen Byers - February 10, 2020 at 09:34 PM

HK

“ *As a patient of Dr. Bowles I feel blessed that he guided my treatment with encouraging words of faith and kindness. I am a better person for knowing him. Prayers for the Bowles family.*

Harfoot Ken - February 10, 2020 at 08:33 PM

Ron
Kattoo

“ *Al was my mentor, teacher, colleague, and friend. He made me understand the importance of God and friendships in this life. He influenced so many and was the most humble man I ever met.*

Ron Kattoo - February 10, 2020 at 06:55 PM



“ *Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.*



February 10, 2020 at 04:04 PM



“ I am shocked and very saddened in the loss of Dr. Bowles. He was the kindest man to all who knew him. The halls of Henry Ford Hospital and F2 will never be the same. Rest in Peace and enjoy the riches of Heaven that I am certain you are in the splendor of this minute. My prayers and sympathies to all who are suffering the loss of this great Physician.



Rena Laliberte - February 10, 2020 at 03:53 PM

ER

“ I remember being scared as an intern on the Pulmonary floor, and his stories would always put me at ease and make me laugh. He will be missed.

Erica Ridley - February 10, 2020 at 03:47 PM

TL

“ Dr. Bowles taught me by example what ethical care is, he will be missed.

Tami Lenoir - February 10, 2020 at 03:23 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.



February 10, 2020 at 03:01 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.*



February 10, 2020 at 02:26 PM



“ *Al was a great colleague and friend for many years. He had an infectious laugh and wit which lightened every encounter. He was remarkably committed to his patients, students and staff.*

I hope that Gwen and family take comfort in that Al is at eternal peace. I also hope that the pain of his loss will be replaced by the great memories that he has left all of us. He truly lived a life well lived. A life filled with his family, his professional commitment and his God.

Rest In Peace my Friend.

John and Beth Popovich

John Popovich - February 10, 2020 at 12:42 PM

MG

“ Alvin Bowles was my dearest friend from Medical School days. Alvin was simply grand! I admired him as I have admired few people. Ginny and I have shared many experiences—family, professional and musical— with Alvin and Gwen over the past 50 years. My children, Michael, Phillip and Gina viewed Alvin as a second father. The Opera season will not be the same in Alvin’s absence.

Alvin’s wit and wisdom enlightened our lives. I know he is resting in peace— as the Good Lord has called him.

Michael Geheb

Michael Geheb - February 10, 2020 at 11:44 AM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.



February 10, 2020 at 11:40 AM

CR

“ Colin Reed purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Alvin L. Bowles MD.



Colin Reed - February 10, 2020 at 10:56 AM