



Brendan M. Fox, M.D.

July 16, 1930 - August 31, 2022

Brendan M. Fox, 92, passed away peacefully on August 31st surrounded by his family in his home. Born to Michael D. and Catherine (McNamara) Fox on July 16, 1930, Brendan, affectionately known as “Big B.,” lived an extremely rewarding professional and personal life, much of it in his hometown of Hartford, hand-in-hand with his beloved wife of 62 years, Maureen (Dunn) Fox. His daily impact on those around him will be sorely missed, but his influence on so many, particularly his family and friends, will last forever. He was a very special man, and the world is indeed a better place because of him.

The son of an Irish immigrant father and two Hartford educators, Brendan realized the value of education at a young age and shared his passion for endless learning with his children and grandchildren. He graduated from Bulkeley High School in 1947 and received his Bachelor of Science degree Magna Cum Laude from College of the Holy Cross in 1951. From there, he continued the pursuit of his boyhood dream of becoming a physician at Tufts University School of Medicine from which he graduated Cum Laude in 1955. While there, Brendan earned induction into the Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society, of which he remained a member throughout his life. Following multiple residencies in various specialties and two years as a Captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, Brendan settled with his family in Hartford, where he began a long affiliation with Saint Francis Hospital and built his private practice, the Hartford Urology Group.

As a member and leader of many professional organizations, both local and national, Brendan was always committed to bettering the discipline of urology. He learned from some of the field's renowned experts, many of whom became his personal heroes and friends, and he prioritized the tradition of mentoring those rising in the practice of the specialty. Soon after his arrival in Connecticut, Brendan helped coordinate the Urology Residency program at Saint Francis Hospital with the UConn School of Medicine, where he was Clinical Professor of Surgery for almost 50 years. In fact, even in his final days, Brendan still participated in the weekly grand rounds at UConn with current urology residents.

Respected by his colleagues, Brendan was elected President of the New England Section of the American Urological Association (AUA) in 1983 and eventually served as President of the national AUA in 2004. Brendan earned worthy recognition during his career, including the Hartford Medical Society Distinguished Service Medal, the New England/AUA Lifetime Achievement Award, the Saint Francis Hospital & Medical Center Distinguished Physician Award, the AUA Distinguished Service Award, and the AUA Lifetime Achievement Award.

As great as his professional accomplishments were, what was most important to Big B. was the family that he raised with the love of his life, his wife Maureen ("Nana"), who passed in 2019. Their five children, their spouses, and their twelve grandchildren gave Nana and Big B. incredible joy and fulfillment, and they all became his focal point upon retirement. He was his children's and grandchildren's most fervent cheerleader, always there to root them on in whatever they were doing. If something was important to anyone in his family, it was more important to Big B. During his working years and especially in his retirement, he would attend every First Communion, cheer on at every sporting event and graduation, watch every recital, contribute to every spaghetti dinner fundraiser, accept any and all dinner invitations...you name it, he would be there. He relished being surrounded by those he loved, and he always made his loved ones smile.

While many slow down in their later years, Big B.'s pace only accelerated. He and Nana were always on the go, often traveling far and wide to visit friends and family, chairing fundraising events for Saint Francis, volunteering for the Saint Francis Women's Auxiliary and the Malta House of Care, meeting up with Niantic's "Muffin Men," and marching in Hartford's St. Patrick's Day parade as West Hartford's Irish Person of the Year. One of Big B.'s most enthusiastic hobbies was rooting for the UConn women's basketball team. If he and Nana were not in the stands, they would be watching every game with a group of friends in someone's living room. At halftime, Big B. would call his good friend and discuss strategies for the 2nd half, though never did he expect credit for the team's success. For many, the best birthday gift of all was a singing telegram from Big B., and we will all miss his exploding fist bump greetings every time we saw him.

Big B. was humble to a fault and a devoted man—dedicated to his profession, his patients, his friends, his faith, and most of all, his family. Brendan was always that beacon to whom people gravitated for advice, comfort, medical care, a laugh, friendship, and he never turned anyone away. His door, whether to his office or his home, was always open wide. He welcomed and cared for all, regardless of their circumstances. His mantra was always to be generous with his time and knowledge but never to seek attention. His modesty and compassion for all is a standard to which his children and grandchildren will always aspire.

Besides his wife Maureen, Brendan was predeceased by his mother Catherine; father Michael; brothers, John, Gerald, Tom, and Monsignor Davitt Fox; and daughter-in-law, Karen. He leaves his five children and their spouses: Greg (Carolyn) of Old Lyme; twins Cathleen Laffin (Fran) of West Hartford and Ellen Spalluto (Joe) of West Hartford; and twins Steve (Fontayne) of Wilmington, DE and Brendan, Jr. (Ellen) of West Hartford. Big B.'s twelve grandchildren will always smile when remembering him: Meghan

Fox; Maureen, Carolyn, and Caitlin Spalluto; Michael, Matthew, and Stephen Laffin; Davitt and Ryan Fox; and Brendan III, John, and Luke Fox. He also leaves his sister Maureen Hallisey and numerous nieces and nephews. Calling hours will be held from 4-8pm on Wednesday, September 7th in the St. Peter Claver Parish Hall, 47 Pleasant St., West Hartford. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 12:00pm on Thursday, September 8th at St. Peter Claver Church. Live streaming of the service will be available through St. Peter Claver Church by selecting using the link <http://stpeterclaverparish.org>. Please meet directly at the church. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Urology Care Foundation (urologyhealth.org) and to Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center (holyfamilyretreat.org), 303 Tunxis Road, West Hartford, CT, 06107. Online expressions of sympathy can be made at www.molloyfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

PRIVATE

Previous Events

Calling Hours

SEP 7. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

St. Peter Claver Parish Hall
47 Pleasant Street
West Hartford, CT
(860) 561-4235

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP 8. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Church of St. Peter Claver
47 Pleasant St.
West Hartford, CT

Interment Service

SEP 8 (AKT)

PRIVATE

Tribute Wall



“ *Molloy Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Brendan M. Fox, M.D.*



Molloy Funeral Home - September 01, 2022 at 09:53 AM

MM

A beautiful mass for a Wonderful Man. RIP Dr Fox

Matt Morgan - September 08, 2022 at 01:43 PM

OE

“ *Graceful and insightful to the end, Dr Fox was a true inspiration for all of us, much as the Queen of England who left us around the same time. He lives on in all of us! Omar Eton, MD*

Omar Eton - September 20, 2022 at 10:51 AM

KP

“ *Dr. Fox was my maternal grandmother's nephew. His family was highly respected by ours. My son is Brendan Fox Pons Esq. Kevin Pons South Dakota*

Kevin Pons - September 10, 2022 at 09:15 AM

DO

“ *Greg and family; My sincere condolences to you and your family. In my thoughts and prayers. - Dan Ober*

Dan Ober - September 09, 2022 at 01:52 PM

AP

“ I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your amazing father, Dr. Fox. He was one of the kindest human beings I have known and was always welcoming, witty and generous in my many interactions at Loomis Chaffee and Black Point. My sincerest condolences to all of the family. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Annie Pulaski

Annie Pulaski - September 08, 2022 at 03:45 PM

AS

“ OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO ALL THE FOX FAMILY. MAUREEN AND BRENDAN WERE DEAR FRIENDS FOR MANY YEARS, ALWAYS ENJOYED OUR VACATIONS AND WEEKEND TRIPS, WE WILL MISS THEM BOTH. THEY WILL BE TOGETHER AGAIN. SORRY WE CAN'T BE THERE TO HELP AT THIS DIFFICULT TIME. ANITA WILL NEVER FORGET ALL BRENDAN HELP WHEN SHE NEEDED IT MOST AGAIN THEY WILL BE REMEMBERED IN OUR PRAYER AT MASS ON SUNDAY.

AUSTIN AND ANITA STACK - September 07, 2022 at 02:37 PM



“ Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Brendan M. Fox, M.D..



September 07, 2022 at 01:11 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Brendan M. Fox, M.D..*



September 07, 2022 at 11:06 AM



“ *Greg, Cathleen, Ellen, Brendan, Steve & all your families
It truly is a sad day with the passing of Dr. B.
He and my Dad had some business ventures together and he was
always so kind to me and my brothers whenever we saw him.
Growing up with Cathleen & Ellen, I felt like I've known him all my
life and he is leaving a wonderful legacy that he and Maureen
created.
Keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers. I am so sorry that I am
unable to make the wake or funeral.
Will keep you all in my prayers.*

Michael Morgan

Michael Morgan - September 07, 2022 at 08:21 AM



“ *Cathleen, Ellen and Family,
The loss of a loved one is never easy. You have many cherished
memories to keep close to your heart. I wish you peace in the days
ahead.
With Sincere Sympathy,
Tracey Young Horner*

Tracey Young Horner - September 06, 2022 at 09:34 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Brendan M. Fox, M.D..*



September 06, 2022 at 05:15 PM



“ *Brendan and Maureen Fox were life long friends of my parents George and Elaine Dalton. Growing up with the Fox children was great fun, especially Black Point. "Bren Bren" always had a great smile and his warmth was contagious. He was a brilliant man with an incredible memory. He leaves behind a beautiful family-he and Maureen's life work.*

We will miss him dearly.

Kevin, Blair, Meghan, Christopher, Trevor & Shannon Grace

Kevin Dalton - September 06, 2022 at 03:22 PM



I worked with Dr Fox as an RN and he was my Doctor. I was referred for an evaluation of one incident of hematuria . He took my history and examined me. I met none of the profile for bladder cancer. We agreed I would follow up for any further occurrences. He left the room and I started to get dressed. A few moments later he returned stated he had changed his mind, performed the cystoscopy and took biopsies. They were positive for bladder cancer and I underwent surgery with him a few days later. Not only a caring competent physician but a humble one which is the essence of a great physician.

Michele Millane - September 17, 2022 at 10:04 AM

FA

“ *Fam.Ockeloen purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Brendan M. Fox, M.D..*



Fam.Ockeloen - September 06, 2022 at 12:15 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Brendan M. Fox, M.D..*



September 06, 2022 at 11:45 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Brendan M. Fox, M.D..*



September 06, 2022 at 07:09 AM

BG

“ Dear Fox Family,
We are saddened to learn of Brendan's passing. What a gifted ,
compassionate and generous man of faith! We will remember him
always as "the heart and soul" of the Muffin Men, a group of friends
who partook of weekday Mass and breakfast together. We have
fond memories of sharing an Italian dinner with him and his beloved
Maureen at our home in Niantic.
His was truly a life of purpose, the only kind worth living.
May this "good and faithful servant" be at peace in his heavenly
Father's House.
Peter and Barbara Guerra
Niantic

Barbara and Peter Guerra - September 05, 2022 at 04:22 PM

CE

“ Chris and Eileen purchased the Enduring Grace
for the family of Brendan M. Fox, M.D..



Chris and Eileen - September 05, 2022 at 04:03 PM

GH

“ I am so very sorry to hear of Brendan's passing. My sincere
sympathies to his children, grandchildren, and extended family. I
know the many special memories of him will bring peace and
comfort.
❤️ Gena Hallisey

Gena Hallisey - September 05, 2022 at 01:05 PM

DB

“ Dr. Fox was a very important person to me in my career as a medical transcriptionist/assistant when my first job in the Medical Records at St. Francis Hospital led me to work for him at Hartford Urology Group on Ashley St., then at Woodland St. & finally at One Thousand Asylum Ave. which was over the course of at least 20 years. Not only did his patients come first and received extraordinary care from Dr Fox, he really cared about his employees. He made me feel like family and I will always be grateful for that. My deepest sympathy to his family. He was a remarkable physician and also a generous and caring person.

Donna Barber - September 04, 2022 at 09:20 PM

KM

“ My condolences to the whole Fox clan. Brendan was especially helpful to me in the researching of my books. Brendan roomed with my uncle, Dr. Edward Murphy of Windsor, while the two were at Tufts Med and worked and slept at Boston City Hospital. I met with him about 2005 and his command of births, deaths, tuition costs, Hartford politics, &c was astounding. He even remembered much of what was written in the 1910 Flexner Report !

For Brendan, Jr. and Ellen . . . I particularly want to extend my heart and hope that you can remember Wordsworth's lines . . .

*Though nothing can bring back the hour
Of splendour in the grass, of glory in the flower,
We will grieve not, instead find
strength in what remains behind . . .*

Again, condolences . . .

*Kevin Murphy
Rocky Hill*

Kevin Murphy - September 04, 2022 at 07:46 PM

TB

“ To Kathy, Fran, Michael, Matt, and Stephen,

My deepest sympathy for your loss.

Although I did not know Mr. Fox Fran always talked highly of him as a person, professional, father, father-in-law and grandfather. I know he was always proud of his children and grandchildren. You were fortunate to have him in your life as was the Greater Hartford health community.

May he rest in peace,

Tom And Lucie Di Bella

Thomas Di Bella - September 04, 2022 at 12:06 PM

AM

“ *I was so saddened to read that Dr. Fox had passed. The obituary says it all and what an outstanding Physician he was. I was proud to say that I worked for Dr. Fox and I can tell you they do not make them like him anymore for sure. Dr. Fox was one of a kind and I cannot tell you what he meant to me.*

I have so many memories that I will treasure.

Please accept my condolences to all of his children and grandchildren.

Rest In Peace Big B you were the best.

With Deepest Sympathy

Angela Martel

Angela Martel - September 04, 2022 at 08:29 AM

HJ

“ Henry Jacobs MD JD purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Brendan M. Fox, M.D..



Henry Jacobs MD JD - September 01, 2022 at 10:01 PM

HJ

“ I first met Dr. Fox when I was a med student. He was a great guy and I kept in touch with him over the years during my practice at SFH and then at HH. He was my go to urologist. What a wonderful doctor and person should look like. I will miss him and always remember his kindnesses. Henry Jacobs MD JD

henry jacobs MD JD - September 01, 2022 at 09:57 PM

BM

“ Big B. Is one of a kind. They don't make them like this very often. When you are in the company of someone as GREAT as Dr. Brendan M. Fox, just listen, absorb and be grateful. Truly special and my life is enriched because I had the opportunity to know him. Condolences to his beautiful family. To the Fox family, thank you for sharing Big B with the rest of us. Peace, hope and love to the entire Fox family.



Bernard P Moran - September 01, 2022 at 08:37 PM

PD

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you on the passing of your father and grandfather, Dr. Fox. His legacy is far-reaching, both professional and personal. The true testament to his legacy, though, is how his spirit lives on in the caring and generosity of his children and grandchildren. We remember him fondly, and are confident that there's a great celebration going on right now, with his entry through the pearly gates. May the memories of wonderful times sustain you.
Pat and Tom Driscoll

Pat Teufel Driscoll - September 01, 2022 at 03:28 PM

JT

“ *John Halloran & The Mobile Health Team. purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Brendan M. Fox, M.D..*



John Halloran & The Mobile Health Team. - September 01, 2022 at 11:23 AM

GO

“ *To all. I was very sorry to hear of your Dad's death! We go back a long way and I have fond memories of the good times Fred and I had with your Mom and Dad! Because I am in RI I cannot attend the services, but please know that m thoughts and prayers are with you all!*
Sincerely Ginny O'Brien

Ginny O'Brien - September 01, 2022 at 10:24 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Brendan M. Fox, M.D..*



August 31, 2022 at 06:55 PM



“ *Brendan had the best handshakes!
He could do a wild, convoluted handshake/greeting.
It might start out normal, palm to palm, but rapidly progress to back of hands, then fingers in air, then all sorts of other hand, elbow, forearm gyrations. Plus, he always had a new variation the next time.*

He was always cheerful. I will miss his positive upbeat personality. I will miss him.

Brendan 8/25/1956 with my Mom.



PJ Hallisey - August 31, 2022 at 05:17 PM



Great photo PJ!

Kevin Dalton - September 06, 2022 at 03:24 PM

PO

Greg, Cathleen, Ellen, Brendan, Stephen & your families,

We were so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. Going back to the Robin Rd days, and all the picnics and outings our families shared together, we will always remember him not as the highly accomplished professional he undoubtedly was, but as one of the warmest, funniest, kindest, most humble men we have ever known. He truly did make the world a better place, and he will be deeply missed. Please know you are in our thoughts.

Patrick, Barbara and the Ohlheiser Family

Patrick Ohlheiser - September 07, 2022 at 12:50 PM

ML

Dear Cathleen and family, I will surely be with you in spirit, thoughts, grief, faith, love, and in prayer, as you honor Dr. Brendan in the liturgy and during the whole day. What a wonderful, blest man he was here, and now, surely is in our eternal home ! Peace, Maureen Laffin-Finizio

Maureen Laffin-Finizio - September 07, 2022 at 06:13 PM