



John Richard Shepherd DDS

September 23, 2017

John Richard Shepherd, DDS, 86, of West Hartford, passed away peacefully on September 23, 2017 with family by his side. John was a devoted father and grandfather. His family and his dental practice were the joys of his life and his patients were like family. He was a brilliant teacher and had wisdom and knowledge of dentistry that was ahead of its time. He was a man of action and never idle for a moment. He was a man of strong moral character and a friend to all. When not with his family or seeing patients, he was running, biking, landscaping or gathering litter in Elizabeth Park that others seemed not to see. His wife, Ella Mae, was the love of his life and best friend, they worked side by side for more than 60 years.

He was born on May 31, 1931 in Pittsburgh, PA. He attended, New Kensington High School in New Kensington, PA; Villanova University (1953) Villanova, PA; University of Pittsburgh Dental School; Graduate Periodontics Dental Program at Tufts University, Boston. He was a retired Colonel with the United States Army. He practiced dentistry in West Hartford from 1970 to 2016.

John leaves behind his wife of 61 years, Ella Mae (Jones): 10 children: John, Jr. (Susan Delaney), Leslie (Stuart Frank), David, William (Theresa Lester), Susan, Michael (Dana Baltauskas), Thomas, Daniel, Kathleen (Thomas Hansen) and James: 23 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, a large

extended family, and many friends.

Calling hours will be on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 from 11 AM – 1:00 PM at Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Ave. West Hartford, CT followed by a 2:00 PM funeral Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 872 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, CT.

Cemetery Details

Fairview Cemetery

200 Whitman Ave.
West Hartford, CT

Previous Events

Calling Hours

OCT 3. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home
906 Farmington Ave
West Hartford, CT 06119
(860) 232-1322

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT 3. 2:00 PM (ET)

St. Thomas the Apostle Church
872 Farmington Ave.
West Hartford, CT 06119
(860) 233-8269

Tribute Wall

SA

“ Our sympathies to Elle and her family. We loved going to see Dr Shepherd. Not only was he a great dentist, but a wonderful human being. He would always have a funny story, and would definitely make us laugh. We were blessed to have had him for our dentist for as long as we did. He is truly missed. God's peace to all, Richard and Sharon Agostinelli

Sharon Agostinelli - October 05, 2017 at 10:11 PM

LW

“ Like so many others, I have a healthier mouth due to Dr. Shepherd's care for many years. Many warm memories of a special man and his darling wife. Ellie - I loved our chats. Love and hugs, Leslie Woodworth

Leslie Woodworth - October 03, 2017 at 05:38 PM

TK

“ The Curry Children: Paul & Sue,Christy,Mark, Karen purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John Richard Shepherd DDS.



The Curry Children: Paul & Sue,Christy,Mark, Karen -
October 02, 2017 at 04:28 PM

SA

“ Sara lit a candle in memory of John Richard Shepherd DDS



Sara - October 02, 2017 at 03:41 PM

SA

“ My mom was a patient of Dr. Shepherd and I saw him a few times myself. He solved my lockjaw problem and I have never had problems since. He will be missed. Regards, Sara Wentworth

Sara - October 02, 2017 at 03:38 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of John Richard Shepherd DDS.



October 02, 2017 at 02:56 PM

PM

“ I was a patient of Dr. Shepherd's for many years. First appointment with him, he relaxed me, taught me how to care for my gums, assuring me I would never have to have gum surgery again . I have not. This was in the 70's. Was with him for many years. He was kind, and took such good care of me. Prayers to all of you.

Pam McCue

Pamela Mccue - October 02, 2017 at 11:09 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Richard Shepherd DDS.*



October 02, 2017 at 10:12 AM



“ *My wife Ellen and I were patients of Dr. Shepherd for more than 35 years, and we are deeply saddened to hear of his passing. Besides being a highly skilled physician, he was wonderfully comforting and reassuring when we were hurting and in need of his help. He had a wonderful sense of humor, and we always felt there was an aura of pure goodness about him. He will be sorely missed. Ellen and James Bent*

James & Ellen Bent - October 01, 2017 at 12:34 PM



“ *The Madkour family is very sorry to hear the news about Jack. We are thinking of all of you at this time.*

*Dr. Abraham and Brenda Madkour
Manchester Center, VT*

abraham madkour - September 30, 2017 at 11:23 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Richard Shepherd DDS.*



September 30, 2017 at 11:16 AM



“ *Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Richard Shepherd DDS.*



September 30, 2017 at 08:04 AM



“ *I am very sorry to hear of Dr. Shepard's passing. The last time I saw him, in '13, I was with my Dad (also a dentist). The two of them regaled me with a story of a "Winter Campout" in New Hartford, Connecticut when they accompanied John Jr. and I when we were Boy Scouts in the early '70s. It was hilarious to hear the two of them describe the weekend from the point of view of very cold fathers. You shall be missed, Dr. Shepard.*

*Jim Goldberg
Warwick, Rhode Island*

Jim Goldberg - September 29, 2017 at 04:33 PM



“ *My mom, Selma Stein, was a patient of Dr. Shepherd for many years and adored him. He was a special guy. Very sorry for your loss. Larry*

Larry Stein - September 29, 2017 at 02:51 AM



“ *Dearest Kath,
I never met your father. However, what I know of you and your family, his gifts to the world will reverberate forever. Huge hugs and sending love, Polly Wingfield*

Polly P Wingfield - September 29, 2017 at 12:54 AM

CR

“ *Christine Robinson lit a candle in memory of John Richard Shepherd DDS*



Christine Robinson - September 28, 2017 at 02:54 PM

CR

I am so sorry to hear of Dr. Shepherd's passing. He was an amazing man with amazing talents! My heart goes out to Mrs. Shepherd and their children and grandchildren. I loved my visits to the dentist because I was always greeted by a wonderful lady and then treated by a funny, talkative and skilled dentist! May he rest in peace. Chris and Bill Robinson

Christine Robinson - September 28, 2017 at 02:59 PM

MR

“ *Dr. Shepherd ... You walked the walk of faith in all aspects of your life. You were a model for many in way you never knew. We miss you. May you rest in God's peace. Deepest sympathies to Mrs. Shepherd and family.*

Maria Roja - September 28, 2017 at 09:36 AM

LD

“ *Dr. Shepherd was my dentist for over 30 years. He was an amazing doctor and human being. I knew I was getting the best a care from a knowledgably, kind, and caring person. My condolences to his family and especially his wonderful wife Ellie. His is a life to be honored and celebrated.*

Lynn (Marilynn) Dempsey

Lynn Dempsey - September 28, 2017 at 08:30 AM

MT

“ *Mark, Renee, and Your Cisco Team purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Richard Shepherd DDS.*



Mark, Renee, and Your Cisco Team - September 27, 2017 at 09:34 PM

SG

“ *Dear Kathleen, Tom, Elle, Jane and family,*

I am very sorry to hear of your Dad's/Grandfather's passing. Please accept my sincere condolences and sympathies. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. Take care and God Bless you all.

Shaun Galvin

Shaun Galvin - September 27, 2017 at 07:00 PM

AD

Dr. Shepherd was one of my most respected medical practitioners

along with Ron Buonomano who recommended him to me for a periodontal adjustment. A truly fine man and a great medical team along with his lovely wife Ellie. His tales of military service and life in general were classic. Dr. B. said to me one day don't let anyone but Shepherd deal with your jaw issue. I was about to set up an appointment for my annual cleaning when I return from Canada next month. May hest in peace. Tony DeVito, Collinsville, Connecticu

Anthony DeVito - September 28, 2017 at 08:03 AM