



## Richard Joseph Cobb M.D.

September 28, 2021

Dr. Richard J. Cobb's good run ended on September 28, 2021. He lived a rich, adventurous life grounded in faith, family, education, and warm friendships. Dick, more fondly known as Grandpa, was born to Charles W. Cobb, Jr., and Cecelia (Glynn) Cobb on April 18, 1931, and was married for sixty-four years to his beloved wife, Patricia (Campion) Cobb.

From childhood, Dick knew he wanted to be a doctor, and he studied and worked diligently to achieve his goal. He attended Saint Thomas the Apostle School, Saint Thomas Seminary, and spent his college days at Providence College, his cherished alma mater. From there he went on to earn his medical degree at The New York Medical College in New York City. After completing his internship at St. Francis Hospital, Dick and Pat initially settled their growing family in Norfolk, where he was a general practitioner and served in the National Guard. The family moved to New Haven, where Dick completed his radiology residency at Saint Raphael Hospital. Dick loved being a radiologist and he particularly enjoyed learning about every new imaging modality over the course of his career. After working at Saint Francis Hospital for a few years, he teamed up with his friend and colleague Dr. Kenneth White to form the Cobb and White Radiological Group, later Connecticut Valley Radiological Group. After years of private practice, Dick joined the ranks of the teaching faculty at the UConn School of Medicine, accepted a six-month fellowship in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and completed a stint as Head of

Radiology at Bassett Medical Center in Cooperstown, NY. He ended his career by returning to UConn, retiring at the age of 75 in 2006.

Wherever they went, Dick and Pat made their mark in the community, forging life-long friendships along the way. In 1964 Dick and his family settled in the diverse and vibrant Blue Hills section of Hartford, where he and Pat raised their seven children on Canterbury Street, just down the block from St. Justin's Church and School. It was his idea to transform their backyard into a playground, a place where many of Hartford's finest basketball players found their touch. He loved the neighborhood and all his neighbors and welcomed into his well-lit kitchen any girl who wanted her ears pierced, neighborhood boy who was looking for a buzz cut, and anyone who suffered a minor mishap and required a quick stitch or two in a pinch. In the summer of 1983, Dick and Pat moved to Bushnell Towers, where Dick quickly became a fixture in the Downtown scene. He could often be spotted walking his beloved standard poodles, first Buddy and later Brandy Alexander, who was a particular comfort to him in his final years. Dick served on the Board of Directors at Community Health Services and was also a patron of the Hartford Library, where he volunteered to help people file their income taxes. A communicant at St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church, Dick became great friends with many of the Franciscan Brothers who work and reside there.

Dick lived a healthy lifestyle and centered his social life around exercise and being outdoors with friends. He was an avid tennis player throughout his thirties, but when he caught the running bug in the mid-1970s, he went all-in. For years he and his group of jogger friends gathered most days at the crack of dawn at Reservoir 6 to run and enjoy each other's camaraderie. Dick participated in the Manchester Road Race for decades and was duly proud of completing several marathons, including Boston and New York a number of times. In his later years he took up the game of golf, which allowed him to focus his energies on learning a new sport and to garner more lasting

friendships.

A devout Catholic, Dick loved people and treated everyone he encountered with dignity, respect, and a natural, cheerful grace. He had a good word for everyone he passed and served as a model of humility and kindness to his children and grandchildren, especially when he interacted with those most in need. There was always room for one more at his and Pat's table, and Dick relished every opportunity to regale his guests with family stories, complete with his trademark embellishments. Holidays always included a couple of his colleagues or students from around the globe sharing the occasion, many of whom became part of the fabric of his family. Dick had the gift of kindness.

Dick's greatest legacy was instilling the value of education, as his motto was "education does not cost, it pays." He believed there was no more lasting or valuable gift, and he took great pride and satisfaction in supporting and encouraging his children's and grandchildren's educational endeavors. Dick was predeceased by his mother, father, and brother, Charles. Besides his loving wife Dick leaves his children and their families: Richard, Jr. (Terry), Charles (Ellen Pinkos Cobb), Michael (Susan), John (Leslie Virostek), Mary Gothers (Timothy), Joseph (Dana), and Christopher. His fifteen grandchildren cherish their memories of him: Richard III, Sarah, Jessie, Timothy, Elizabeth, Catherine, Grace, Sean, Connor, Aidan, Caroline, Abby, Meghan, Elise, and Aileen. He also leaves six great-grandchildren and his sister-in-law, Nicki Cobb, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. The family would like to thank all of his wonderful caregivers whose compassionate attention was a comfort to Dick and his family in his final years.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church 285 Church St. Hartford on Saturday, October 2, at 10:00 AM, with calling hours beginning at 9:00 AM at the Church. The Mass will also be livestreamed for

those unable to attend in person. In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to The House of Bread, 1453 Main Street, Hartford, CT, or to the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry, 385 Church Street, Hartford, CT. Directions and a link to live stream available at [www.molloyfuneralhome.com](http://www.molloyfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Fairview Cemetery

200 Whitman Ave.  
West Hartford, CT

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

OCT 2. 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM (ET)

St. Patrick St. Anthony Church  
285 Church Street  
Hartford, CT

## Mass of Christian Burial

OCT 2. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Patrick St. Anthony Church  
285 Church Street  
Hartford, CT

# Tribute Wall



“ *Molloy Funeral Home created a For Stream Select and Click on Preferred Viewing from link. in memory of Richard Joseph Cobb M.D.*



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**Molloy Funeral Home** - September 29, 2021 at 11:48 AM

CM

*Link will bring you to options to view: Facebook or Youtube, simply click on preferred format.*

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**Chris Molloy** - September 29, 2021 at 11:49 AM

BM

*What a loss to humanity and to teaching! Dick was a giant of a man whose kindness and good humour will be sadly missed as far away as Ireland. My sincere condolences to Pat and Family. Beatty Crawford, Northern Ireland.*

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**Beatty Crawford, MD** - September 30, 2021 at 11:29 AM

BJ

*Farewell my friend and colleague at UConn Health Center.  
There are many ex residents and now Radiologists who will remember  
you for your encouragement , guidance and teaching.  
We had great times working together.*

*On a personal note, your generosity and kindness were immense.  
When I was new to this country, you welcomed me in to your family.  
I cherish the memories of your and Pat's hospitality particularly over  
Thanksgiving and Christmases .  
Dick, a life well lived and you made a difference to a lot of people.  
We will miss you.*

*Bipin Jagjivan*

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**Bipin Jagjivan** - October 02, 2021 at 02:22 PM

HC

“ *I am very saddened to just learn of Dr. Cobb's passing.  
In 1978 he saved my life. He lived down the street from me and as I  
was bicycling near his home on Canterbury St. I suffered severe  
pains in my side. I rang his doorbell and he was there. He  
immediately recognized my problem as Appendicitis. He then  
immediately called St. Francis and I was taken to the hospital  
emergency room for surgery.*

*Had he not been home, I might not be here. He was my Guardian  
Angel at a time of need and I have never forgotten what a kind and  
dedicated physician he was. I have never forgotten how he saved  
my life. I will always thank him in my prayers.*

*He was a very special person and I think of him every time that I  
pass the home where he had lived.*

*Howard Crane*

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**Howard H. Crane** - October 07, 2021 at 05:14 AM

SP

*Dr. Cobb, was the driving force that started my career in radiology. I was working as a transporter in radiology at Johnson Memorial Hospital in the late 70s. Dr. Cobb said I can do better than that, he got me applied at Mt Siani School of radiology in Hartford. And after 2 years of studying and training. He gave me a job at his office in Hartford. From there I went on to become At registered CT technologist 10 years later. And from there a registered MRI Technologist. And after 45 years I recently retired as a full time MRI tech from AdventHealth in Dade City Florida. And I'm thankful for all Dr Coob meant to me. Side note while I worked at JMH. My grandmother was visiting our family from Canada, she became l'll while here I asked Dr. Cobb his opinion of her symptoms. He said bring her up here to the hospital and I'll check her out . She had a mild case of strep throat, he prescribed antibiotics and she was better with in a few days. To her he was her hero! RIP Dr. Cobb you deserve your place with the angels. I'll remember you always.*

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**Steve Plourde** - July 14, 2023 at 10:48 PM

SP

*RIP my friend*

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**Steve Plourde** - July 14, 2023 at 10:48 PM

MA

“ *To Pat and Family,*

*As a young x-ray porter at St. Francis Hospital and, later, as a teacher and golfing partner, it was a pleasure to know Dr. Cobb. He had a zest for living, an infectious smile, and a way of making others feel at ease and important. His compassion and willingness to help others were clearly evident throughout his life.*

*I will miss our talks and rounds of golf.*

*Our thoughts and prayers are will you and your family.*

*Mike & Maria Angelillo*

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**Mike & Maria Angelillo** - October 02, 2021 at 01:05 AM

AM

“ Dick was a good friend, a wonderful neighbor but more importantly, the best golfing buddy I could have had. We had many good laughs on the course and I hope he finds a great course to play in heaven. You will truly be missed. Rest In Peace.

Your pal,  
Al Marks

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**Al Marks** - October 01, 2021 at 11:17 AM

AM

“ We have so many wonderful memories of our times together - whether it was going out to dinner, going to Theater by the Sea, walking our dogs, or just spending time together enjoying Snug Harbor. Thank you so much for allowing us to be a part of your loving family. Our heartfelt sympathies to Teedie, and the entire Cobb family. We love you all. Your love and friendship will always be cherished by us forever. Thanks for the memories.”

Rest In Peace, Dick.

With love,

Al and Sandy Marks ( Midnight and the late Jake too)

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**al and Sandy Marks** - September 30, 2021 at 01:31 PM

VO

“ Pat and family. I am very sad to learn of Dick's passing! He sure will be missed by all the O'Briens! We go back a long way and have great memories! I know he is now in a better place and he sure has lots of company!

My thoughts and prayers are with you all! 🙏💔

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**Virginia O'Brien** - September 30, 2021 at 10:51 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Richard Joseph Cobb M.D..*



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September 30, 2021 at 10:33 AM



“ *Doctor Cobb was the best of the Saint Francis Hospital community! "A dear and glorious physician." May he rest on peace. Pat Pabich*

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**Patricia Halle Pabich** - September 30, 2021 at 09:08 AM