



## Dr. Donald E. Payne

September 24, 1924 - November 4, 2014

A Memorial Service for Dr. Donald Earl Payne, M. D., 90, will be held on Thursday, November 13, 2014 at 2:00 PM at Green Acres Baptist Church with Rev. Paul Powell officiating. A reception will be held at Green Acres Baptist Church following the service. A private family graveside service at Rose Hill Cemetery will precede the service under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Dr. Donald Earl Payne, MD, 90, died Tuesday, November 4, 2014, at the Meadow Lake Retirement Center in Tyler following a brief illness.

He is preceded in death by his parents David Earl Payne & Alice Lora High and one brother, Ronald Payne.

Survivors include his wife of 63 years, Patsy Lowry Payne, of Tyler, and three sons and their wives: Keith & Cynthia Payne of Shreveport, LA; Mark & Helen Payne of Indianapolis, IN; and Alan & Toni Payne of Franktown, CO. He is also survived by six grandchildren and one great grandchild: Dana Payne living in Parker, CO; Shannon Payne in Colorado Springs, CO; Ann Payne in Pittsburgh, PA; John Payne in Long Beach, CA; and Liza and Becky Payne in Indianapolis, IN.

Born September 24, 1924, in Anadarko, OK, Dr. Payne's life spanned the Great Depression to present day, with his childhood years spent in Sterling, OK, where he graduated from high school. He attended the University of Oklahoma but was drafted into WWII to begin service with the Army in the Medical Corps. Spending more than two years sailing the world on various

ships in the service, on his second Pacific tour he was assigned to the hospital ship USS Marigold, which was the first American ship to dock in Japan at the end of the war. The end of his second Pacific tour and the entirety of his third Pacific tour were spent transporting American POWs back to the Philippines and then on to the United States. Dr. Payne was honorably discharged from the Army on June 6, 1946, with the rank of Master Sergeant. Upon discharge he resumed his education at the University of Oklahoma and the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine, graduating in June of 1952, with his medical degree.

Upon graduating from medical school, Dr. Payne and his wife Patsy relocated from Oklahoma City to Tyler, TX, where he started his career in Pediatrics with Dr. George Brown in July of 1955. Drs. Brown and Payne went on to establish the Children's Clinic in Tyler, which is in operation to the present day on Rusk Street. Dr. Payne spent a total of 49 years in service to the parents and children of East Texas, finally retiring in October of 2003. His pediatric practice spanned three generations of children in the East Texas area, and he considered each one of them to be a member of his family. He truly lived for his work.

Throughout his life, Dr. Payne enjoyed many diverse hobbies and interests, ranging from the collection of antique clocks to gardening, raising orchids, water skiing, and tennis, to name a few. He was quite proud of the fact that on his 80th birthday he managed to ski the entire length of Lake Tyler without stopping. But above all, his interests were dominated by caring for his immediate and extended family throughout his life and career in pediatrics. In this, he knew no greater joy than spending time with his family.

Dr. Payne was a member of Green Acres Baptist Church for more than 59 years.

Honorary pallbearers are Keith Payne, Mark Payne, Alan Payne, Cary Medlock, Carla Stover, Robin Carbonell, Dana Payne, and John Payne. The family wishes to thank Cary & Tami Medlock, longtime friends of Don, for their devotion and kindness. We also thank the excellent staff at Meadow

Lake for their caring and helpfulness during Don's time there.

# Cemetery Details

## Rose Hill Cemetery

2400 S. Donnybrook  
Tyler, TX 75702

# Previous Events

## PRIVATE Graveside Service

NOV 13. 1:00 PM (CT)

Rose Hill Cemetery  
2400 S. Donnybrook  
Tyler, TX 75702

## Mem. Service

NOV 13. 2:00 PM (CT)

Green Acres Baptist Church  
1607 Troup Hwy.  
Tyler, TX 75701

## Visitation

NOV 13. 3:00 PM (CT)

Green Acres Baptist Church  
1607 Troup Hwy.  
Tyler, TX 75701



# Tribute Wall



“ *Dr Payne saved my life. I was. 11 years old and sick for weeks. Mother took me to two other doctors who said I had a strep throat, gave me a shot and sent me home. Dr. Payne did a thorough exam and lab tests. He diagnosed my kidney failure and sent me to the hospital. After five weeks and no improvement, he sent me to Galveston. The other "specialists" wanted to keep me there, but Dr Payne, who was the "new kid in town" stood up to them and made all the arrangements himself. I am alive today because of Dr Payne.*

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**Ginga Langford** - November 23, 2014 at 05:52 PM

WL

“ *Dr. Payne was my Mother's Pediatrician and mine as well. He retired a few years before I had children. I was so sad when I heard of heard passing.any he rest internally in peace*

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**Whitney Lee** - November 16, 2014 at 05:45 PM

MC

“ *Dr. Payne was such a kind man and a wonderful doctor! He meant so much to our family---we couldn't have raised our kids without him! He will be missed. Sending prayers for comfort and peace to his family.*

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**Margaret Carr** - November 15, 2014 at 07:27 PM

KH

“ *Dr. Payne was my pediatrician as well. I'm 26. I remember when how he would walk into the room. He would slowly open the door. He will be missed.*

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**Kristen Harrelson** - November 14, 2014 at 02:36 PM



“ I am 31 years old and Dr. Payne was my pediatrician. For some reason he always remind me of Mr. Rogers because he would wear the same shoes :) He will definitely be missed!

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**Jamie Tomlinson** - November 14, 2014 at 08:08 AM



“ I am 54 years old and dr payne was my doctor from birth to about 16 years old. he was a kind and gentle man who loved children and had a great bedside manner. I looked forward to my visits with dr payne. he was a great man.

*randy staples tyler, tx*

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**randy staples** - November 14, 2014 at 06:23 AM



“ Dr. Payne was remarkable doctor. I didn't think so when I was a kid lol. We would butt heads every time I had to go to the doctor but when my children were born there was no other doctor I would have trusted either my children. You will be greatly missed by many. Sending prayers to your family.

*Shannon Dickinson Moltz*

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**Shannon Dickinson Moltz** - November 13, 2014 at 03:02 PM



“ Dr. Payne was the best doctor I have ever met. He was my son's pediatrician. He had such a calming demeanor which was just what a first time mother needed. He has built such a great legacy and leaves this world admired by many. He truly was a great man. God Bless his family during this difficult time.

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**Malynda Carroll** - November 13, 2014 at 10:42 AM

AB

*I totally agree. Loved him*

**Amy bradbery** - November 13, 2014 at 07:34 PM

DC

“*Dr. Payne I don't know if I have the words to say just how much he meant to me and my family. He was in the delivery room when I was born. I was certainly not an easy patient. Lots of hospital stays, fusing and crying over shots and blood work. No matter what I always repected him. He always brought great comfort. There was nothing better than seeing him walk into the delivery room when my first child was born. God always had his hands on Dr. Payne. The nurses were upset because he wouldn't let my daughter come out of the nursery the first night due to her blood sugar level. I had had a C-Section so I was not able to go into the nursery. As the nurses came in and were upset because they could bring her to me. I said, "It's Ok, Dr. Payne knows what he is doing." He would laugh and love to see my Grandmother walking down the hall to bring specimens in. He would say its so nice to see three and four generations. It was always nice to see him at Luby's. He would answer questions no matter how little or how big they were. I always think of him when I hear Grandfather clocks. I also remember the pictures of his sons at one of their wedding. He was a very proud Dad. He would laugh now at all the things I have had to eat with my youngest daughter. She's my one that I said I wouldn't do or put with ... Now I'm a very proud Nanna of a grandson. He would take great joy in seeing me run after John. Your family is in my prayers!!!! You have been missed in the office as well you will not be forgotten!*

**Daphne Crow Campbell** - November 13, 2014 at 10:02 AM

LJ

“ Dr. Payne was such an amazing person as well as a doctor. He was my girls doctor all the way till he retired which was a sad day. Loved hearing him whistle going down the hallway to the next patient waiting to hear it get louder to know that meant he was about to come through the door. He will be greatly missed. Praying for his family. We Love you Dr. Payne

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**Leah Jumper** - November 12, 2014 at 10:58 PM

CW

“ I remember him as being my doctor as a kid... A nice gentleman that provided healthcare to generations of east Texans...may he rest in peace and his family find comfort in knowing he was a well respected individual. Still to this day I remember going to his office and fearing I'd have to get a shot....I'll be honest, I never got comfortable with the shots, but his gentle voice and reassuring attitude helped make my visits much more bearable. God rest his soul! Dr Payne....

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**Christopher Witt** - November 12, 2014 at 09:54 PM

CF

“ Dr. Payne was my son's Mikie pediatrician. He was one if the sweetest I know. Always kind words and took time to answer all guest ions and caring words to you. So sorry for you're loss. He was a great doctor and person.

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**connie furrh** - November 12, 2014 at 08:53 PM

MS

“ Dr. Payne was the "best looking pediatrician" in East Texas! I told him this often. He would just smile! My children got the best care anywhere! He was just a phone call away. I loved him dearly!

God Bless You, Dr. Payne,  
Marie Styron, Jeanette Singleton & James Styron

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**Marie Styron** - November 12, 2014 at 08:03 PM

HH

“ He was my doctor when I was a child, and I was a stubborn child. I made it never easy for Dr. Payne, he found unusual items in my ear, I was picky about meds, and I was a baby about getting blood work. I will missed him greatly, because Dr. Payne was one of the best!  
Love you Dr. Payne!

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**Hayley Hawkins** - November 12, 2014 at 07:46 PM

SH

“ Dr. Payne delivered all three of my children and cared for them until he retired. We all loved him very much. I can still hear him as a new mother, scared to death saying "Now mother, it will all be ok"! God bless his sweet family.

Sherri chambers

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**sherr** - November 12, 2014 at 06:17 PM

BW

“ God Bless, what a wonderful man and Dr. He was so helpful to me while raising my three children.

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**Becky Wilbanks** - November 12, 2014 at 06:03 PM

KM

“ This saddens my heart to hear this news. Dr. Payne was a awesome doctor to my 3 kids. I told him that he could not retire until he raised mine, and that he did. I have often thought of him over the past several yrs. May the God of Peace be with his Family. The Miers Family.

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**Kay Miers** - November 12, 2014 at 05:06 PM

JH

“ Dr. Payne was the most caring, gentle pediatrician. He not only loved my children but always made me feel that I was doing a great job as a new mother. I wish all doctors were as kind and caring as Dr. Payne. I pray for the family and say Thank You for sharing this gentle giant with all of us. We will miss you Dr. Payne  
Jill Hackler

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**jill hackler** - November 12, 2014 at 04:37 PM

JD

*But I always thought WE were his favorites! He had such a kind way of giving his complete attention to his patients. I'll never forget how soothing he was when I brought in my son Daniel as an infant with his first asthma attack: "Now, mother, he's going to be just fine. He's having to work to breathe but see, he's pink under his fingernails and he's getting plenty of oxygen." He tended all three of my children from birth and started my first three grandchildren. When he retired I seriously worried whether we would have to curb the supply of grands since he wouldn't be available to start them on their way. He was the best.*

*Joan Driver*

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**Joan Driver** - November 12, 2014 at 08:17 PM

TB

“ Dr. Payne cared for his babies with a sweet smile and gracious personality that eased their pains and left mothers with words of wisdom and comfort . I thank his family for sharing him with us for those many years..

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**Theta Burns** - November 12, 2014 at 01:10 PM

PW

“ Dr. Payne was such a blessing in my life! I can't help but have tears when I think back on the past 29 years ... the memories of being a new, young, inexperienced mother and and the fact that I successfully raised two beautiful daughters through his guidance and gentle care. It didn't much matter what it was, if Dr. Payne said it, it had to be right!! I can still hear him saying, "Now, Mrs. Watson...." :).  
Dr. Payne, you will never be forgotten!

*Pam Watson*

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**Pam Watson** - November 12, 2014 at 12:18 PM

PP

“ Dr. Brown was my doctor from the time I was born in 1958 until I was 18. But when he was out, Dr. Payne took care of me and was always so kind. Blessed that both of these great pediatricians were in Tyler during my childhood. Thoughts and prayers.

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**Paula Snider Patterson** - November 12, 2014 at 11:37 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Donald E. Payne.*



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November 12, 2014 at 10:24 AM



“ *Dr. Payne was my pediatrician up until I turned sixteen years old. My mother has a photo of him and I on the day I was born on 1/23/84. He truly loved his patients and I send my sincerest condolences to the family. He will be missed.*

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**nicole philen** - November 12, 2014 at 01:16 AM



“ *Dr. Payne took care of my three boys during their entire childhood. He was a great doctor. You could tell he loved his patients. When we moved to Baytown for approximately eight months, he set us up with a pediatrician there and even sent a letter to him telling him to ignore the scars and such on their legs. He told the new pediatrician that he knew we did not abuse our children that they were just "all boy". I remember that our youngest son had an "outie" bellybutton that worried his grandmother and she would have me ask Dr. Payne about it every time we came to the office. Dr. Payne said to tell her that it would correct itself in time, but if it would make her feel any better he would poke it in and put a large bandaid over it so she would think he was doing something about it. He also repeatedly told me to tell her not to worry about our oldest son not eating enough. He said there was nothing wrong with him and that if he got hungry enough he would eat. He always gave me good advice and I obeyed it. He was a wonderful pediatrician and my boys and I will never forget him!*

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**Phyllis Guinn** - November 11, 2014 at 10:20 PM

JN

“ Dr Payne was my pediatrician, as well as my husband's and my best friend's (facts that we all learned later as a coincidence!). He was a wonderful doctor and a kind soul. My mother would do anything he said to the letter! He was very much respected and appreciated by my family and it was a sad day when I finally "aged out" of the Trinity clinic years ago. He was a special doctor and the world needs more like him today! Thank you for being such an important part of our family's lives. Our condolences and prayers to the family.

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**Joy Peggram Neely** - November 11, 2014 at 07:49 PM

LA

“ I was a Dr. Brown baby but saw Dr Payne in his absence. I was also privileged to later work with him in the clinic for a short time. I enjoyed learning from him and his calming spirit, He was such a kind man. Praying for the family as you remember and celebrate his life.

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**Lori Acker** - November 10, 2014 at 09:31 PM

SK

“ Dr. Payne took care of me as an infant and throughout childhood and then he took care of my children. I will never forget the comfort he gave me as a new mom and I will always remember his "now Mom" whenever I let those fears run amok. Dr. Payne will always have a special place in my heart. What a legacy! Suzanne Kunzman

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**Suzanne Kunzman** - November 10, 2014 at 12:47 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Donald E. Payne.*



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November 10, 2014 at 11:25 AM



“ *I don't know what me or my kids would have done without this wonderful, caring and ever so calm doctor. You were never just a patient to him; he would see me and my kids out someplace and he could call them by name as if they were good friends. I lift the family up in prayer for comfort and for sharing this wonderful man with so many of us. He will never be forgotten, and we will see him again when our time comes. Eva Miller*

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**Eva Miller** - November 10, 2014 at 02:40 AM



“ *Dr. Payne was my doctor as well as my brothers' dr. ....We loved him so much and he was great friends with my dad and mom. He was genuine anytime you met him and such a awesome Dr. He will be greatly missed...so kind, loving, understanding....Hope all the family knows how sorry we are for your loss. I have lost both my parents and brother. My deepest sympathy for all of you..Our loss..Heavens gain.....Wonderful memories*

*Sallie Bell Warren*

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**Sallie Bell Warren** - November 09, 2014 at 07:15 PM

KB

“ Dr. Payne was one of the finest doctors I had the pleasure of working with at Mother Francis Hospital. He taught me countless things about newborns. I remember him standing beside me during an emergency delivery of a preterm infant early in my career ,scared to death , and Dr Payne reassured me and gave me a pat on the back and a "job well done" after it was over . I will never forget these things about him . Rest in heaven my dear friend .

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**Kathy Birt** - November 08, 2014 at 07:00 PM

MC

“ Dr. Payne was my doctor as well as my son's doctor until his retirement. I will always remember his calm voice and wisdom. He was such a blessing to me and my family. I will be praying Comfort for his family during this time of loss.

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**Melynda Cook** - November 08, 2014 at 05:30 PM

DH

“ Dr. Payne was my very first doctor, 54 years ago here in Tyler. I will always carry great memories around with me about his doctoring on me and now he and Dr. Brown must really be visiting it up together!

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**David Herren** - November 08, 2014 at 01:19 PM

JA

“ Dr Payne was wonderful person. He was one of a kind. I feel privileged that I got to work with him for over 20 years. I have so many memories of him and will treasure each one. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Take comfort in knowing he's at home in heaven.

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**Jan Anderson** - November 07, 2014 at 07:05 PM

JR

“ I am so saddened to hear that Dr. Payne has gone to be with the Lord. I have known him for 40 years and so remember him as a wonderful loving man and Dr. who everyone admired. I am sending the family my love and prayers. May you find comfort and peace knowing he is in an amazing place now.

*Jan Barrett Rogers*

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**Jan Barrett Rogers** - November 07, 2014 at 02:08 PM

KW

“ Oh I would have never made it to adulthood had it not been for Dr. Payne. Accident prone was my middle name. I sure loved him and his staff. Now I am a grandmother and I so wish there were more Dr's like him. He leaves a legacy of happy children. He will be greatly missed.

*Kim Wilson and Robert Wilson & The AK Wilson Family.*

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**Kim Wilson** - November 06, 2014 at 04:11 PM

BD

“ I was so sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. Payne. We were recently in Rehab together at ETMC and I really enjoyed our times together, He was so sweet and so sad about his little wife being so compromised and he bragged on his children . He will be really missed and I pray God will give you comfort. Betty Dean



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**Betty Dean** - November 06, 2014 at 03:46 PM

LA

“ My childhood doctor from birth to 18 :) Took wonderful care of my always!

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**Laura** - November 06, 2014 at 03:38 PM

LH

“ I looked forward to him coming into the office and sharing his stories and humming his favorite songs, truly a breath of fresh air. He will be missed and so glad that i was able to attend his awaited 90th Birthday party. May God confort each of you during this time of sorrow!

Lakinger Howland  
Tyler,tx

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**lakinger howland** - November 06, 2014 at 11:07 AM

JK

“ On April 30, 1960, Dr. Payne was at the hospital to welcome our new son. He said if he ever wrote a book, Brad would be in it for scaring his mother "almost" into labor with his sister by playing with a snake. His voice alone could take the fear and anxiety away when I called with another emergency. Our family hope you know how much we loved Dr. Payne. God bless each of you in your sorrow.

James and Kathleen Kyles  
Flint, Texas

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**James and Kathleen Kyles** - November 06, 2014 at 08:43 AM

DC

“ Dr. Payne was my children's pediatrician when they were small. They are now 37 and 33. We have a special place in our hearts for Dr. Payne. He was always so calm and collected thru any situation. I can still here him humming. May he Rest In Peace with our Lord.



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**Diane Cain** - November 05, 2014 at 10:12 PM

CS

“ My heart is so saddened with the loss of Dr. Payne, but yet rejoices to know he is surrounded by love in the presence of our Lord and savior. I loved him as my daughter's pediatrician, my employer, my teacher and as my friend. So many fond memories from Children's Clinic. It was an honor to know him and work for such a caring, calm and brilliant man.

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**Carla Smith Stover** - November 05, 2014 at 05:20 PM

SD

“ Dr. Payne was my first and only pediatrician 53 years ago! I remember my childhood visits to his office and then visiting again when I had kids of my own. What a great pediatrician and man. A life well spent caring for the children of our community!

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**Sherri Davis** - November 05, 2014 at 03:22 PM

PH

“ There has never been a better pediatrician than Dr. Payne. My parents could not have raised me without him and I couldn't have raised my children without him. He was a blessing to so many families and will always be remembered for his wisdom and calmness. He was a truly great man. Condolences to his family.

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**Paula James Hartsfield** - November 05, 2014 at 02:39 PM

KB

Dr. Payne was a wonderful man and my family really loved him. All three of my "children", who are now 62, 60 and 56 were patients of Dr. Payne since they were born until adulthood. He had such a wonderful manner about him.....always so kind and so calm during stressful illnesses or accidents and we had quite a few of those. Our sincere condolences to his family. The world was a better place because of him.

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**Kay Blow** - November 06, 2014 at 11:22 AM

JM

*Dr. Payne was my pediatrician and my boys' pediatrician. He was such a kind man who began our visits with, "Now Mother . . ." I will never forget how he hummed softly while he stiched my younger son's forehead, and I was in total shock. He calmly told me to step outside the door and take deep breathes as he couldn't take care of me and my son if I fainted. Our family loved Dr. Payne and his wife as though they were family. Prayers for his family.*

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**Jane Young Maloney** - November 06, 2014 at 06:06 PM

MJ

*Dr. Payne was our pediatrician and neighbor. He was a great man at both. He helped me raise 2 kids. He will be missed by so many.*

*Mary Ann Jones*

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**Mary Ann Jones** - November 06, 2014 at 06:19 PM

LW

*Saddened to hear of Dr. Payne's passing, He was a wonderful pediatrician who truly cared for his patients. He will be missed by so many.*

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**Linda Willis** - November 07, 2014 at 09:54 AM

CO

*Dr. Payne was my only child's pediatrician and such a wonderful man he was. He would always reassure me that things would be fine. We loved going to his office as we both knew we would leave his office with a peace that his words would give us.*

*Charlene Overall*

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**Charlene Overall** - November 07, 2014 at 10:48 AM

CM

*He was a great man. Always so reassuring to the family. No matter the circumstance he remained calm and not rattled by anything. He was my pediatrician 47 years ago from birth to 18. By the time I had kids he was not taking new patients, I was very sad. Amazing friend, dr, and man. He will be missed. He was the best in the field of Dr's.*

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**Carmen Matlock** - November 07, 2014 at 11:12 AM

JJ

*While we were going from Tyler to Beaumont where we lived at the time our baby daughter got very sick near Jacksonville. We stopped at Nan Travis Hospital to seek help. At that time they did not have a pediatrician. We had the hospital call Dr Payne. He and his nurse rushed to Jacksonville to help her. He with God's help saved our daughter. We will always be eternally grateful for him . Years later when we moved to Tyler we became his across the street neighbor and life long friend. I know that now he is in the presence of God and was told well done my good and faithful servant. May God bless his love ones.*

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**Jeff Jones** - November 07, 2014 at 05:10 PM