



## Dr. Gifford V. Eckhout Jr.

August 14, 1959 - June 22, 2014

Requiem Mass will be celebrated for Dr. Gifford V. Eckhout, Jr., 54, of Tyler, on Saturday, June 28, 2014, at 10:00 AM at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception with Father Timothy Kelly and Father Luke Kalarickal officiating. Burial will follow at Rose Lawn Cemetery in Tyler under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Dr. Eckhout passed away Sunday, June 22, 2014, at Tyler after battling a long illness.

He was born August 14, 1959 in Denver, Colorado to Dr. Gifford V. Eckhout, Sr. and Mrs. Velma Christine Ferguson Eckhout.

Dr. Eckhout graduated from Colorado College with a B.A. in chemistry. He earned his M.D. from St. Louis University Medical School and completed his anesthesiology training at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. While practicing anesthesia at the Cleveland Clinic, Dr. Eckhout obtained his M.B.A from the Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. With the Cleveland Clinic Foundation he was Head, Section on Staff Recruitment, Department of General Anesthesiology, CCF from 2000 to 2005, Anesthesia Coordinator, Operating Room (60 anesthetizing locations), Chair, General Anesthesiology Clinical Issue Committee, Electronic anesthesiology consultation service, Department of General Anesthesiology, development with e-Cleveland Clinic, Elected Representative, Division of Anesthesiology Committee, 2002-2004, Clinical Issues Liaison, Dept. of General Anesthesiology 2003 to 2005, Finance and Contracting Committee,

Cleveland Clinic Physician Organization from 1999 to 2004, Cleveland Society of Anesthesiologists, President from 1994 to 1995 and Cleveland Society of Anesthesiologist, Board of Directors, 1992-1997.

In 2005 Dr. Eckhout took on a new challenge as the Chief of Anesthesia at Trinity Mother Frances Hospitals and Clinics in Tyler. In 2011, Dr. Eckhout was appointed Executive Vice-president of the Trinity Health Care System in addition to remaining Chair of Anesthesia. Dr. Eckhout's numerous accomplishments include serving on the Finance Committee of Trinity Clinic from 2007-2011, The Board of Directors of Trinity Clinic from 2008-2012, and the Practice Standards Committee for Trinity Clinic from 2009-2011. He was a member of the American Society of Anesthesiologists and served on many committees from 2001-2013. He was a member of the Texas Society of Anesthesia.

Dr. Eckhout was also the President of the Ohio Society of Anesthesiologists from 2004-2005. He was head of numerous departments for The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, during which time he was on the CCF Review Committee for Chairman, Dept. of OB/GYN; Head of Staff Recruitment, Dept. of General Anesthesiology; Anesthesia Coordinator, and Chair, General Anesthesiology Clinical Issues Committee.

He accomplished so many things in such a short time. The love and comfort of his wife and children gave him purpose in life to make a difference in others' lives through the medical field and mentoring colleagues to achieve their best. He is survived by his loving family including his wife, Marlise Martin Eckhout; daughter, Ellen Eckhout of New York, N.Y.; son Austin Eckhout of Tyler; sister, Kimberly Eckhout of Highlands Ranch, Colorado; brother, Tom Eckhout of Highlands Ranch, Colorado; two nieces and one nephew.

Pallbearers will be Austin Eckhout, Perry Ganchar, Shawn Bagwell, Dr. Joe Zasik, Dr. Steven Keuer, Dr. James Stanford, Dr. Armin Schubert and Dr. Ray Borkowski.

Visitation is scheduled from 6:00 –8:00 PM on Friday, June 27, 2014 at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway, in Tyler. A

reception will be held following the service at 12:00 PM on Saturday at the Louis and Peaches Owen Hospital at Trinity Mother Frances Hospital.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Gifford V. Eckhout, Jr., M.D., MBA Memorial Fund at Trinity Mother Frances Foundation, 611 South Fleishel, Tyler, TX 75701. Gifts will be dedicated to expand and enhance heart care at the Louis and Peaches Owen Heart Hospital which he dearly loved and worked to build.

# Cemetery Details

## Rose Lawn Cemetery

2003 Blue Mountain Blvd.  
Tyler, TX 75703

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 27. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home  
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy  
Tyler, TX 75703  
(903) 581-2008

## Service

JUN 28. 10:00 AM (CT)

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception  
423 S. Broadway  
Tyler, TX 75702

# Tribute Wall

MT

“Gifford was a truly fine man and physician. He always had a smile on his face! He will be remembered fondly in the East Texas community.

*Marlise, we are thinking of you and your family at this difficult time.*

*Love, Marilyn and Ray Thompson*

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**Marilyn Thompson** - July 09, 2014 at 09:43 PM

DC

“I had known Gif for over 25 years and he never ceased to amaze me with his devotion to family and medicine. He always spoke to me about caring for family, not himself. He was a man of deep faith and humbly practiced his belief in God in gratitude for all the gifts he received in life. We will miss him in Cleveland. He truly was one of the best and consistently touched hearts with his unselfish giving to others.

*Dan Cotter*

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**Dan Cotter** - July 03, 2014 at 06:14 AM

LO

“It was an honor to work with Dr. Eckhout over the years at Mother Frances Hospital. He was such a good man as well as excellent physician. I learned so much from him. He talked often about the family that he dearly loved. My thoughts and prayers are with each of you. He will always be remembered by those that he touched in life - Laura Owen

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**Laura Owen** - June 29, 2014 at 10:29 AM

MR

“ To Marlise, Ellen and Austin,  
You are in my prayers today. Giff was blessed to have a family who supported and loved him as much as you did.  
Meg Reitmeyer

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**Meg Reitmeyer** - June 28, 2014 at 11:07 AM

BB

“ DR. GIFFORD WAS A BRIGHT STAR ON THE LEADING EDGE OF MEDICINE, HE WAS DEDICATED TO THE HEALING ARTS, ALEVIATING PAIN AND SUFFERING AND REDUCING COMPLICATIONS AND COMORBITIES. IT WAS A GREAT PLEASURE TO WORK WITH HIM FOR SEVERAL YEARS. MY HEARTFELT SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.  
BILL BELLENFANT

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**BILL BELLENFANT** - June 28, 2014 at 05:11 AM

CW

“ Chris, Bob, Rob and Warren purchased the Summer's Light Bouquet for the family of Dr. Gifford V. Eckhout Jr..



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**Chris, Bob, Rob and Warren** - June 26, 2014 at 03:06 PM

MG

“ I have met many physicians in my life and Dr. Eckhout was among the finest. Such a sweet gentleman and will always be remembered.  
God bless. Maricar Gomez

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**Maricar Gomez** - June 26, 2014 at 10:36 AM

LS

“ I greatly enjoyed working with Gifford during my time at TMFHC and am deeply saddened by your loss. He was such a blessing to me. My prayers and thoughts are with you.  
*Loretta Swan*

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**Loretta Swan** - June 26, 2014 at 10:23 AM

CS

“ *Marlise, Ellen and Austin--*  
*I am saddened to learn of Dr. Eckhout's death. He was one of the finest physicians I recruited during my time at Trinity and was the reason for a lot of my success there. I am working in Chicago for a few months and will not be able to see you personally this weekend but please know my thoughts and prayers are with all of you. I want to visit when I return to Texas. Fondly, Cindy DeVasto Stokes*

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**Cindy DeVasto Stokes** - June 26, 2014 at 09:21 AM



“ *With Distinction was purchased for the family of Dr. Gifford V. Eckhout Jr..*



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June 26, 2014 at 07:53 AM

WF

“ *With Love, Kehllee & Marc Popovich & Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dr. Gifford V. Eckhout Jr..*



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**With Love, Kehllee & Marc Popovich & Family** - June 25, 2014 at 08:39 PM

BA

“ Giff will surely be missed. With our deepest sympathy to the family.  
May The Lord comfort you at this difficult time.  
Basem Abdelmalak

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**Basem Abdelmalak** - June 25, 2014 at 12:32 PM



“ Fruit Abounds was purchased for the family of Dr.  
Gifford V. Eckhout Jr..



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June 25, 2014 at 12:30 PM

DM

“ OUR DEEPEST HEARTFELT SYMPATHIES GO OUT TO THE ENTIRE ECKHOUT FAMILY, ESPECIALLY HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN. DR. ECKHOUT AND HIS WIFE MARLISE HAVE BEEN FRIENDS OF OURS FOR YEARS. ID LIKE TO SHARE A STORY WHICH WILL ATTEST TO THE GOOD FRIEND AND DOCTOR THAT GIFFORD WAS. GIFFORD DID MY ANESTHESIA WHEN I HAD SURGERY FOR CANCER. I WAS A YOUNG WOMAN AND FRIGHTENED OF ALL THE UNKNOWNNS CONNECTED WITH MY DIAGNOSIS. WHEN I AWOKE FROM THE SURGERY I OPENED MY EYES AND GIFFORD WAS THERE AND ASKED ME HOW I FELT. I SAID A FEW WORDS, PAIN AND GONNA THROW UP. I INSTANTLY WAS MADE PAIN FREE AND NO MORE NAUSEA. I SPENT THE NIGHT IN THE HOSPITAL AND WHEN I AWOKE EARLY IN THE MORNING I REALIZED GIFFORD WAS THERE TO SEE HOW I WAS DOING. HE MUST HAVE KNOWN HOW I FELT, AFRAID OF ALL THE UNKNOWNNS AND WHAT WOULD THE FUTURE HOLD FOR ME. HE TOLD ME A BRIEF STORY ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCE AS A YOUNG MAN IN MEDICAL SCHOOL AND THAT HE WENT THROUGH CHEMO AND RADIATION DURING THAT TIME IN HIS LIFE. HE GAVE ME HOPE AT THAT MOMENT WHEN I NEEDED IT SO VERY MUCH. HE WANTED ME TO KNOW THAT HE SURVIVED A FRIGHTENING TIME IN HIS LIFE AND THAT I COULD BE A SURVIVOR AS WELL! I DON'T KNOW IF HE EVER KNEW HOW GRATEFUL I WAS THAT VERY MOMENT AND ALWAYS WILL BE FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE FOR THE HOPE HE GAVE ME BY SHARING HIS STORY. WHAT A REMARKABLE FRIEND AND DOCTOR! THANK YOU DR. ECKHOUT FOR BEING OUR FRIEND AND A WONDERFUL DOCTOR. WE WILL MISS YOU SO VERY MUCH . GOD WILL WATCH OVER YOU ALWAYS! WITH LOVE AND APPRECIATION FOREVER, PETER AND DIANE MITCHELL



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DIANE AND PETER MITCHELL - June 24, 2014 at 09:43 AM