



## Dr. Francis E. McAree, Jr.

July 20, 1930 - August 18, 2021

Dr. Francis E. McAree, Jr.

Dr. Francis E. McAree, Jr., of Fishers, Indiana, died Wednesday, August 18, 2021. He will be interred at Oaklawn Memorial Gardens during a private family service for family. Fran was born July 20, 1930 in Indianapolis, the only child of Francis E. McAree, Sr. and Bernadine Towles McAree Shumaker. He graduated from Howe High School in 1948 and graduated from Indiana University (IU) and its Medical School in 1955. While at IU, Fran was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, a choral quartet, and a letter-winning member of its legendary swim team. He also enjoyed musical performances by many stars at the time, including his idol, Louis Armstrong. Following medical school, Fran performed his internship at Philadelphia General Hospital, where he met a beautiful nursing student from Philly, Judy Mischler. Upon completion of his internship, Fran entered the U.S. Air Force and was assigned to serve as a medical officer at Fuchu Air Base, in Fuchu, Japan. Fran and Judy married and began their life adventure together in Japan, welcoming their son, Kevin, there and offering Fran the opportunity to travel throughout Indonesia, the Philippines, and India. Fran served in the U.S. Air Force on active duty from 1956-1958, attaining the rank of Captain, and on reserve duty until 1972.

Back in Indianapolis in late 1958, Fran began his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Methodist Hospital. He then opened a private practice in association with Community Hospital East, where he practiced for nearly 50

years. Fran was passionate about the field of medicine, reading journals on a daily basis into his 90th year. He was equally passionate about his patients, delivering well over 10,000 babies and caring with a rare expertise and devotion to his thousands of patients, including many multi-generational family members. A Volunteer Clinical Associate Professor at IU Medical School, Fran received the Distinguished Physician Award from Community Hospital in recognition of his contributions to the institution and his community of patients. Prior to and following retirement in the late 2000s, Fran continued to serve as a volunteer physician at the Volunteers in Medicine clinic in Hilton Head, South Carolina—the first free and charitable clinic of its kind. He and Judy also served as medical volunteers to low-resource communities through multiple mission trips to Belize and Ecuador.

Fran's devotion to his medical career was exceeded only by his enduring and unconditional love for and devotion to his family, including his beloved wife, Judy, his children, Kevin, Julie and Laura; his eight grandchildren; his mother, Bernadine; and his extended family members. The family enjoyed an exciting life together with many international trips and time spent at their homes in Stone Harbor, NJ and later at Oldfield in Okatie, SC, with the Mischler clan. Bernadine, Judy and Laura preceded him in death, but Fran continued to honor them throughout his life.

A tribute to Fran would not be complete without mention of the central role that the sport of swimming played in his life. From his early days on the swim team and later playing biddyball at the Indianapolis Athletic Club, to his years with Coach Robert Royer at IU, to a successful master's career—including four gold medals at the Master's National swim meet at age 80 – Fran's swim teams provided him with great friends and good health until he swam last mile workout on his 90th birthday.

Memorials may be made in honor of our Fran to The Aslan Project [www.aslanproject.org](http://www.aslanproject.org) and/or Volunteers in Medicine <https://vimclinic.org/donations/make-a-donation/>. Final care and arrangements are entrusted to Shirley Brothers Fishers-Castleton Chapel.



# Cemetery Details

## Oaklawn Memorial Gardens

9700 Allisonville Rd.  
Indianapolis, IN

# Tribute Wall

AS

“ Fran was one of my older cousin's best friends, I went to 57 and Howe with him and my clearest memory of him is when he would ride his bike pell mell down the side walk on Washington St. trying to chase me down, now and then he did. I'm almost 90 so that was some time ago. Glad he turned out so well. Sorry he's gone, would have loved to be able to talk to him.

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**Ann H. Stewart** - August 23, 2022 at 06:07 PM

BE

“ Barb Edinger lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis E. McAree, Jr.



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**Barb Edinger** - September 10, 2021 at 12:12 PM

BE

“ Dr McAree delivered my daughter & my son In the delivery room him & the nurses were betting candy bar that my son was 10 pounds lol well none of them won he was only 9 lbs 6oz ... RIP condolences to your family

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**Barb Edinger** - September 10, 2021 at 12:12 PM

KB

“ Dr. McAree delivered my identical twin sons in 1968 by c-section and another son in 1970.  
He performed surgery to remove an ovarian cyst during my pregnancy with the twins. He got me through this complicated pregnancy with the twins in which I went 2 weeks past my due date. All three of my sons did quite well and one of the twins became a medical doctor. Thanks to him for helping me have a remarkable family and life. He was a wonderful and caring doctor. RIP Dr. McAree

*Karen Bell, a patient*

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**Karen Bell** - August 30, 2021 at 08:20 PM

LR

“ I had the privilege of serving Dr McAree as his staff office nurse for his last decade in private practice on the eastside of Indianapolis. Always, he was a man and practioner of integrity and wisdom. He was absolutely trustworthy, and his large practice of women who came back to him year after year was a testimony to that. He and Judy were a living testimony to 'for better or worse, in sickness and health', standing with each other in all seasons of their remarkable lives. They invested into the lives of others through their faith that was lived out in their care and service to orphans in Belize, and in other areas that had limited medical care.  
The world has lost a truly fine man; heaven has gained a saint.  
Linda Robertson, RN, Retired

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**Linda Robertson** - August 29, 2021 at 06:39 PM

DW

*Fran was my Mom's first cousin (almost like a brother to her since they lived together during the late part of the depression and early WWII). He was smart and kind and is remembered by the younger generation for giving kids flu shots at the family Thanksgiving party at his house. Judy was probably the sweetest person I have ever known on this earth and they were devoted to each other and the Church and to family through thick and thin. Through both family tragedy and great triumphs. He delivered all 3 of my daughters and I trusted him with our lives. Very calm and intelligent and very observant. Heaven has indeed gained a bright light.*

*Debra Shock Walker*

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**Debra Shock Walker** - August 29, 2021 at 08:28 PM

KB

“*Dr. McAree was a thoughtful, funny and dedicated OB physician. I had the privilege of working with him at Community East for over 12 years in the 80's and early 90's....always felt truly cared for all he came into contact with and was a VERY respected and respectful man. The world was a better place with him in it. God speed, Dr. M. Kathy Britton, RN.*

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**Kathy Britton** - August 29, 2021 at 11:43 AM

MS

“*Dr McAree delivered me in 1966. And he delivered my first daughter in 1997.*

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**Mark Suesz** - August 27, 2021 at 08:31 PM

LS

“*He was my doctor from 1965 to his retirement. One visit he had a different nurse...I told him I really liked her..I said he should keep her..he said "I think I will..I married her." His wife was subbing that day.. He had a great sense of humor...so sorry for family....*

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**Linda Suesz** - August 27, 2021 at 07:54 PM

DD

“ *Donna Donahue lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis E. McAree, Jr.*



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**Donna Donahue** - August 27, 2021 at 07:07 AM