



Dr. Frank J. Bender III

March 22, 1958 - December 24, 2023

Dr. Frank J. Bender III, M.D.

age 65 years, of Indianapolis, passed away December 24, 2023. Frank was born March 22, 1958 in Janesville, WI to the late Frank J. and Gloria Allen Bender. He graduated from Parker High School in Janesville, and the Medical College of Wisconsin. He completed his residency at St. Francis Medical Center in Pennsylvania, and did his fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Bender practiced in the Orthopedic field for over 30 years and was a member of the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians, the American Academy of Electro-diagnostic Medicine, and the North American Spine Society. He served honorably in the army reserves for nearly 10 years. Dr. Bender married Suyapa Housman, January 2, 2015.

Frank was known for his strong work ethic, often working on several restoration projects at once. He loved working on his cars, especially his yellow Volkswagen truck. He was an avid runner in his youth and enjoyed salsa dancing later in life. Frank had an amazing sense of humor, always telling Dad jokes. He never met a stranger and was quick to befriend those he met. Frank loved life, traveling, and being on his sailboat. He was always ready for an adventure and up for any challenge he encountered. Frank had so much to give and will be greatly missed.

Visitation will be Friday, December 29, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. until the time of funeral service at 1:00 p.m. at Shirley Brothers Irving Hill Chapel, 5377 E. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46219.

Dr. Bender is survived by his loving wife, Suyapa D. Bender; stepson, Alan E. Housman (Katie); stepdaughter, Alethia C. Minzlaff (Thad); four grandchildren, Ashton, Miles, Harmony, and Santana; four sisters, Cathy Grambo (Wes), Dr. Theresa Pape (Mike), Mary Fitzgerald, and Joan Rogers (Mike); and a brother, Paul Bender (Laurie). He was preceded in death by a sister, Patty Bender and a brother, Steve Bender.

Memorial contributions may be made in Frank's honor to the Medical College of Wisconsin online at: https://mcwsupport.mcw.edu/makeagift?_ga=2.11722868.1525791088.1703701620-1795640856.1703701620

Cemetery Details

Anderson Cemetery

6380 E. 10th St.
Indianapolis, IN 46219

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **29**. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Irving Hill Chapel
5377 E. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46219
(317) 357-1181
info@shirleybrothers.com
<https://www.shirleybrothers.com>

Funeral Service

DEC **29**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Irving Hill Chapel
5377 E. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46219
(317) 357-1181
info@shirleybrothers.com
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Tribute Wall

SC

“ FYI Dr. Bender managed my hip pain with well placed injections. He came to Jacksonville, IL to treat patients too. I understand that a scholarship is being set up by his family at the medical college in Milwaukee, WI. I am all for education of such incredible specialists as Dr. Bender and I totally embrace and support helping more excellent trained doctors as a memorial to Dr. B.
From Sue Crowfoot, Jacksonville, IL

SUSAN CROWFOOT - April 08, 2024 at 12:14 AM

CB

“ Being a patient of Dr. Frank Bender for many years I found him to be a very caring, compassionate, and well informed Doctor. He always made one laugh & smile. I will miss him dearly - RIP
Christine L. Broccardo - Springfield, IL

Christine Broccardo - January 01, 2024 at 11:36 PM

VW

“ Saddened to hear of the passing of Dr. Bender. He liked to tell stories and jokes while working on his patients to distract from any discomfort of the procedure. What a thoughtful man. Glad to have known him for just the short amount of time that I was his patient. Condolences to his family, friends and colleagues as I'm sure they miss him dearly.

Veronica Wellhausen - December 29, 2023 at 03:51 PM

SC

“ We were very sadden to hear of the passing of Dr. Bender. We enjoyed sharing our office with him every Friday. He always made us laugh with his endless Dad jokes. He was a blessing to our community and will be very missed.

- St. Francis Orthopedic Clinic Staff

St. Francis Orthopedic Clinic - December 29, 2023 at 03:13 PM

DH

I was very saddened to learn of Dr. Bender's passing. I had only been a patient of his for about 4 years; however, I deeply respected him and appreciated how kind, caring and funny he was. Out of 3 doctors i saw to do a procedure on my back to keep me out of pain, Dr. Bender was the only doctor who could get the needle and meds in the area where I needed. I relied on Dr. Bender to help keep me comfortable and he humbly delivered every time. Doctor also led me through the procedure to keep me informed and distracted from the procedure. I will greatly miss his humor and expertise in the years to come. Dr. Bender is a hard person/doctor to replace. My sincere condolences to his wife and family, his sisters and brother, as well as his colleagues and staff at OCI.

Debra Holt - January 18, 2024 at 04:00 AM

KS

“ So very sorry to hear about the loss of Dr. Frank Bender. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Sue and his family. May God give you peace and strength. Frank was my practice partner and he was always pleasant ,caring, and kind to patients and staff. I will always remember seeing him after work going for a bike ride. He also loved to dance with his wife Sue. He will be greatly missed at OCI.

Karolyn Senica - December 29, 2023 at 08:50 AM

KS

“ Karolyn S. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Frank J. Bender III.

Karolyn S. - December 29, 2023 at 08:37 AM

TF

“ The Tobin Families purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Frank J. Bender III.



The Tobin Families - December 28, 2023 at 05:24 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Dr. Frank J. Bender III.



December 28, 2023 at 12:46 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Frank J. Bender III.



December 27, 2023 at 06:33 PM

MH

“ *Mr and Mrs Bryan & Lisa Padilla Harris planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Frank J. Bender III.*

Mr and Mrs Bryan & Lisa Padilla Harris - December 27, 2023 at 06:33 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Dr. Frank J. Bender III.*



December 27, 2023 at 06:24 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Frank J. Bender III.*



December 27, 2023 at 05:05 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Dr. Frank J. Bender III.*



December 27, 2023 at 04:35 PM

TY

“ Frank and I had been friends since middle school. We ran track together in middle school, HS and college at UW-Whitewater.

We have lost contact somewhat over the years but texted on occasion to catch up on things. We also talked during recent years at our HS reunions.

I have always considered Frank to be a great friend over the years and I will miss him greatly! I think of the many great times we've had over the 50+ years of friendship.

My thoughts and prayers are with Franks sisters and his brother at this time. I know that Frank has found peace and we will see each other again some day.

Tom Yoss - December 27, 2023 at 11:22 AM



“ Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Frank J. Bender III.



December 27, 2023 at 11:10 AM

LM

“ Litchfield Family Practice MDs planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Frank J. Bender III.

Litchfield Family Practice MDs - December 27, 2023 at 11:10 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of *Dr. Frank J. Bender III*.



December 26, 2023 at 03:08 PM