



## Dr. Robert "Bobby" Lafayette Whipple III

November 13, 1942 - July 24, 2018

Robert Lafayette Whipple III MD

Robert "Bobby" Whipple, 75, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, July 24th, 2018 with his family at his side. Bobby was born on November 13th, 1942 in Atlanta Georgia. He graduated high school from The Westminster Schools in 1960. He attended Vanderbilt University, graduating in 1963 Summa Cum Laude and was a proud member of the AOA Honor Medical Society and SAE Fraternity. From there, he went on to Emory Medical School, graduating Summa Cum Laude in 1967. Post graduation, he started his internship at Grady Memorial Hospital where he met his beloved wife, Claire. They were married in 1968.

Shortly after marrying Claire, Bobby was drafted into the U.S. Navy and attended flight surgery school in Pensacola FL. Bobby was assigned as a flight surgeon to Kaneohe Marine Corp Air Station in Hawaii. Bobby and Claire took full advantage of island and Navy life in Hawaii by going to the beach, weekend scuba diving trips and social events at the officer's club. He was assigned to several squadrons as a flight surgeon, and deployed to DaNang, South Vietnam in 1971 with Squadron VFMA 212. He received a Bronze Star for Valor for his actions during a missile attack on their base shortly after they arrived.

After his service in the U.S. Navy, Bobby and Claire returned to Atlanta where he completed his residency at Grady Memorial Hospital and fellowship at Crawford Long Hospital. Bobby then co-founded Northwest Cardiology Consultants with his medical school roommate. The practice expanded and grew over the years, merging to form Cardiology of Georgia in 1992. Finally, Bobby was a founding member of what is now Piedmont Heart Institute in 2001 before his retirement from medicine in 2005. During his long career, he was a fellow of the American College of Cardiology, member of the American Heart Association, Atlanta Medical Society, Georgia Medical Society, Atlanta Clinical Society and American Clinical & Climatological Society.

Bobby had a work hard, play hard philosophy and he lived life to the fullest. While his three kids were young, he enjoyed countless family trips to Lake Lanier, Amelia Island and spent many hours boating, fishing, camping and pulling his kids on skis, tubes, rafts and any other floating devices. He was also a huge fan of winter sports. Bobby and family went on many ski trips out west and he was always up for an adventure. After his retirement in 2005, he enjoyed his free time playing golf with his buddies and spending time on Amelia Island and at Lake Toxaway. He and Claire also loved traveling around the country visiting friends and family and going on several different cruises around the world. He was also a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Newnan. In his down time, he could be found working a crossword puzzle or exploring a new cookbook for the perfect recipe.

Bobby was a very genuine, honest and humble man who worked to be the best he could be. He treated everyone he met with respect and dignity and was quick with a kind word or witty retort. Once his children were grown and had families of their own, he found a new level of love when his grandchildren were born. He was so proud of each and every one of them and he loved the moments he had with them. Bobby was a great husband, father, provider, friend, role model and doctor who will be sorely missed by everyone who was

lucky enough to get to know him.

Condolences can be expressed online at [www.mckoon.com](http://www.mckoon.com)

The funeral is Saturday, August 4, 2018 at 2 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 576 Roscoe Rd, Newnan, GA, with The Very Reverend Hazel Glover officiating. The family will greet friends at the church beginning at 12:30 p.m. Saturday. A private interment service will be held later at Georgia National Cemetery in Canton. Rather than flowers, memorial contributions can be made to either the Piedmont Heart Institute of Newnan, in care of Piedmont Healthcare Foundation, 2001 Peachtree Rd NE, Suite 400, Atlanta, GA 30309 or to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 576 Roscoe Rd, Newnan, GA 30263.

Survivors include wife, Claire LeBlanc Whipple; children, Robert L. Whipple IV & wife Claudia, Justin Whipple & wife Tracy, Mary Claire Wickliffe & husband Chad Hamlin; brother, Joseph Whipple & wife Linda; grandchildren, Liam Whipple, Amelia Whipple, Holden Whipple, Hadley Whipple, Hayden Whipple, Anna Wickliffe, Madelyn Wickliffe; nieces and nephews.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory (770) 253-4580

# Cemetery Details

## Georgia National Cemetery

1080 Scott Hudgens Drive  
Canton, GA 30114

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 4. 12:30 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
576 Roscoe Road  
Newnan, GA 30263

## Service

AUG 4. 2:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
576 Roscoe Road  
Newnan, GA 30263

# Tribute Wall

BS

“ *Very sad to see this. I worked with Dr. Whipple from 94-98. What a sweet, loving man. He was so fun and so kind. I was just telling someone about him and how great it was to work for him and Dr. Wickliffe and saw his obituary. I am so sorry to his family, his sweet daughter Claire. He was a wonderful man.*

Betty Schuller - June 29, 2023 at 04:38 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert "Bobby" Lafayette Whipple III.*



August 04, 2018 at 07:01 AM

MJ

“ *Maureen and I cherish the memories and great times with Claire and Bobby going back to the early '70's when were stationed in Hawaii. We spent nearly every weekend together scuba diving around the island and hanging out at the beaches. After establishing our careers and raising our families, we found each other 20 years later at a squadron reunion in Pensacola, FL and we've been getting together on a regular basis ever since. Bobby was a steady source of wisdom, humor, and plain old fun!. Our hearts and prayers go out to Claire and family at this most difficult time.*

Maureen and Don Jackson - August 02, 2018 at 08:33 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert "Bobby" Lafayette Whipple III.



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August 02, 2018 at 08:57 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden* was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert "Bobby" Lafayette Whipple III.



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August 01, 2018 at 02:32 PM



“ *Len & Karen Skatoff* purchased the *Memories to Treasure* for the family of Dr. Robert "Bobby" Lafayette Whipple III.



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**Len & Karen Skatoff** - July 31, 2018 at 05:18 PM



“ *Allen LeBlanc Family* purchased the *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* for the family of Dr. Robert "Bobby" Lafayette Whipple III.



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**Allen LeBlanc Family** - July 31, 2018 at 06:27 AM

LF

“ Dear Claire, I was saddened to hear of Bobby's passing. I enjoyed the time we spent with you and Bobby on Amelia Island and the many memories that resulted from our time together. My condolences to you and your family. Best wishes Lee Fitz-Gerald

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Lee Fitz-Gerald - July 30, 2018 at 11:17 AM

JH

“ Not enough time or space to share all the great memories. "Growing up" with Bobby as a close friend, fraternity brother, and professional and committed adolescent was more than just fun - it was a privilege! Look forward to sharing stories and memories with others at the services this Saturday. Joe Don Robroy and his wife Moonpie, my good friends from Muleshoe, Tx, had they known Bobby would have put it this way: "Life in the fast lane is a better gig than running cross country with snails!"

J. B. Hutchison Jr

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joe hutchison - July 30, 2018 at 08:15 AM

SW

“ When my husband, Eric, had a heart attack on May 4, 1989, he was stabilized at Newnan Hospital and transported the next day to Atlanta for a cardiac cath. My husband was just 37 and had a major heart attack and Dr. Whipple was so kind and reassuring when he said he was sending Eric to Piedmont Atlanta for cardiac bypass surgery. He referred Eric to Dr. David Bone who performed a 6 bypass operation on him and between the two doctors they saved his life. Dr. Whipple was one of the kindest people that we had ever met and his expertise and comforting personality helped us get through that trying time. I want to express our deepest condolences to the entire Whipple family. God bless all of you.

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Susan Weegar - July 28, 2018 at 12:30 AM

MW

“ W

*Anna Wickliffe*

*I am his Grandaughter. I have enjoyed every minute I have spent with my grandfather. He is such an inspirational, amazing person. He has left everyone who met him with great memories. He has made every moment I have spent with him ten times brighter. I'll miss you grandpa!*

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**Mary Wickliffe** - July 27, 2018 at 09:14 PM

MW

“ *Madelyn Wickliffe*

*He was an AMAZING grandfather. We would have SO much fun at the beach with him. He was an awesome person, and a great grandfather.*

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**Mary Wickliffe** - July 27, 2018 at 09:12 PM



“ *Sweet Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert "Bobby" Lafayette Whipple III.*



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July 27, 2018 at 01:56 PM

LM

“ *Laura Meiners purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Dr. Robert "Bobby" Lafayette Whipple III.*



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**Laura Meiners** - July 27, 2018 at 09:55 AM

ML

“ So sorry to hear this. He was my "heart" doctor for years and was such a wonderful doctor and person. He will truly be missed.

Miriam Horton Lanier - July 26, 2018 at 04:05 PM

RW

“ Sending our prayers and comfort to you Claire, Rob, Justin and Mary Claire . Anyone who ever met Dr. Whipple would never forget him! Genuinely loved people and so charismatic! I was lucky to work for him for many years as he taught me so much with cardiology. A precious man who will be missed .

Renee and Greg Wallace

Renee Wallace - July 26, 2018 at 03:32 PM

BY

My daughter, Tracy, is married to Bobby&Claire's son, Justin. I loved Bobby&Claire from the time I met them almost 20 years ago. How lucky Tracy was to have married into such an AMAZING family! Oh how my GrandKids, Holden, Hadley, and Hayden, will miss their GrandPa! I am hoping that Justin and his family will find peace during this difficult time. HUGS to you, Claire, for all of your TLC for your Bobby. Bobby was so loved by so many! Soar high, Bobby Whipple!

Barb Yahn - July 26, 2018 at 06:49 PM

MW

He was an AMAZING grandfather. We would have SO much fun at the beach with him. He was an awesome person, and a great grandfather.

Madelyn Wickliffe - July 27, 2018 at 08:53 PM

AW

I am his Granddaughter. I have enjoyed every minute I have spend with my grandfather. He is such an inspirational, amazing person. He has left everyone who met him with great memories. He has made every molment I have spent with him ten times brighter. I'll miss you grandpa!

anna wickliffe - July 27, 2018 at 09:53 PM