



R. Maurice Hood MD

July 25, 1924 - January 4, 2014

Raleigh Maurice Hood, MD, 89, went to Heaven, January 4, 2014. He was born in Lubbock, Texas, on July 25, 1924 to W.A. Mose and Vinita Hood. Maurice will be remembered most for his service to others and for his Christian example.

Maurice joined the United States Navy in 1941, which provided him the opportunity to study medicine. He married Arminta (Jonnie) Johnson on June 9, 1946, and the newlyweds immediately moved to San Diego, Calif., where he began a career as a doctor in the Navy. Maurice and Jonnie moved to Austin, Texas, in 1958 where he set up his medical practice. As a noted physician, he performed the first open heart surgery in Austin and saved countless lives. He later taught at both Texas Tech School of Medicine and New York University School of Medicine.

As a child, Maurice enjoyed riding fire trucks with his dad, a fireman, in Lubbock. He never outgrew his love for working alongside firefighters. The fire radio in the house and car, and a bubble light on the car were part of his life. He became an instructor for the Austin Fire Department and the Lubbock Fire Department. For his dedication and service, Maurice was named as an honorary Fire Chief for both cities departments.

The most important part of Dr. Hood's life began in 1972 when he made his first trip to Aba, Nigeria, as a medical missionary. From then, until his death his heart remained in Africa. Maurice traveled to Nigeria fourteen times between 1972 and 1982, taking many young doctors and nurses with him to

share his knowledge and his faith. At the Nigerian Christian Hospital, Dr. Hood worked alongside men and women he respected as heroes of faith. Through this work and his continued support of the ICHF African Christian Hospital Foundation he, his wife, and his colleagues helped save lives and introduced countless people to Jesus Christ.

Maurice is survived by four children and their spouses: Bill and Linda Hood of Round Rock; David and Marilyn Hood, of College Station; Laurie and Danny Davis, of Dickens; and Kathy and Dean Clement, of Round Rock. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to ICHF African Christian Hospital Foundation or Sunset International Bible Foundation. A visitation will be held at Highland Village Church of Christ in Austin on Monday, January 6th at 6:00- 8:00. The funeral will be held on 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 8th at Sanders Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

City of Lubbock Cemetery

2011 East 31st Street
Lubbock, TX 79404

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

Sanders Funeral Home
1420 Main Street
Lubbock, TX 79401
(806) 763-6433
director@sandersfuneralhome.com
<https://www.sandersfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

CH

“ Pretty sure Dr Hood saved my life upon my birth at St David's in Austin back in 1960. I was a month premature and my esophagus was not fully developed. My Mom took me to meet him when we lived in Lubbock circa '71, but I didn't really appreciate what he'd done for me until adulthood. RIP, Dr. Hood.

Clay Harvey - February 13, 2025 at 10:28 AM

CB

“ To the family of our dear brother in Christ, Dr. Hood. I remember meeting him and the lovely Jonnie when we came to Sunset. I would talk to her in greeting at church and she would tell me stories about her life. On Wednesday eve. they did a series on "A life Well Lived". They talked about Dr. Hood and all of his accolades. Many of us were amazed at the life he lived. We all learned a lot about him. I know I was very impressed. So we want to express to you our deepest and most heartfelt sympathy in the loss to you but heaven's gain. May the God of All Comfort, Comfort all of you at this time. He know's your pain.



Catherine Brown - January 08, 2014 at 07:06 PM

JR

“ With a long ago spirit and an unselfish concern for others, Dr. Maurice Hood devoted his life making life better for those around him both in the US and Africa. He and his late wife made so many trips abroad to serve his fellow man. He was a great friend to us at Elm Brook. He shared many of his wonderful books with us and his many wonderful places of meditation. Dr. Hood also loved his cats. The medical expertise and innovation was a special gift that was awed by so many. His love for God just flowed to others. We will sorely miss him as a very special friend.
Jim and Beth Reynolds

Jim and Beth Reynolds - January 08, 2014 at 10:55 AM

JS

“ Kathy -
I'm sorry to learn about your Dad's passing - but I know he is in a much better place & your parents are rejoicing together again. What a special man he was and oh, the lives he touched! What an honor to have him and his Christ-like example in your lives for so long. I know it will be painful for all of you he left behind, but I'm praying for comfort and wonderful memories for you all.
Joan Strawn

Joan Strawn - January 08, 2014 at 09:17 AM

BS

“ Maurice was truly a "Friend to man". He dedicated himself to serving / helping others through multiple avenues: Spiritual life, Physical Health, and Emotional stability. His deep love and appreciation for God, and all He has provided on this earth, is evidenced by his beautiful photographic works, focused on nature's beauty surrounding us. He loved the rare "QUIET" times he was able to spend focused on the FATHER. After a long life, serving the Master, I give THANKS to God for allowing Maurice to move on to the next phase in His plan for His children. Treasure the legacy your father is leaving for you, Bill, Laurie, David, Kathleen, and your families. Many of us are better people for having known Maurice as a friend. Betty

Betty Sanders - January 07, 2014 at 09:09 PM

AD

“ A wonderful servant for the Lord will be missed. I feel privileged to have served as a deacon under his Eldership during the years he served the Church here in New York. Under his direction the church became involved in supporting the Nigerian Christian Hospital, a work we still support. My wife and I enjoyed many hours camping with Jonnie and Maurice in our camping club. We always recall one camping trip when we were canoeing down the Delaware River, Maurice in the front, Mabel in the middle and myself in the back. A couple of young boys in a raft tied to the back of the canoe. We got stuck on a rock, the raft went around us, tipping all three of us into the river. We all stood there in the shallow river laughing, Maurice in his jump suit and Florshiem shoes. I always loved his dry sense of humor. Our prayers will be with your family.

Art and Mabel Davidson

Art & Mabel Davidson - January 07, 2014 at 11:35 AM

SO

“ Kathy and Family, so very sorry to hear about your Dad. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Sandra Owen

Sandra Owen - January 07, 2014 at 10:34 AM

MS

“ Kathy, I am so sorry to hear about your dad. I know you and your family find peace in knowing that he and your mom are now together in Heaven without worries or pain. Thinking of and praying for you and your family during this difficult time.

Mindy

Mindy Schroeder - January 07, 2014 at 10:26 AM

MA

“ Kathy - so sorry to hear about the loss of your dad. I know you will be comforted by the many happy memories you have of both your dad and mom! Hugs to you, Dean and girls and all others who knew and loved your dad.

Maria

Maria - January 07, 2014 at 10:17 AM

GC

“ Dr. Hood was a really fine man and surgeon. He was a very good friend to Brackenridge Hospital School of Nursing students and taught us well. It was such a pleasure to work with him and along side him back in the day. God bless him for all his work in Africa and in the US. My condolences to his surviving family and thanks be to God that he lived such a long and fulfilled life.

Ginger Craddock

class of 1969

Brackenridge Hospital School of Nursing



Ginger Craddock - January 06, 2014 at 05:40 PM

PW

“ Dr. Hood was the epitome of a professional doctor and surgeon. He was a leader who could make decisions when it really counted. Yet, he had a very tender heart toward the sick and suffering. The medical mission work at the Nigerian Christian Hospital was the perfect fit for this extraordinary physician. He gave his best everyday, anywhere he worked. But there was something special when he practiced medicine in a place where your skills are tested to the maximum, resources are very limited, and the people are so appreciative of your efforts. This unique combination grabbed his heart and mind. It compelled him to write books, to speak at seminars, and to work at preparing others to go and do likewise. Dr. Hood did his best to follow in the footsteps of the Great Physician. Go well. Clarence, Patty, and Hope Wilson Searcy,AR

Patty Wilson - January 06, 2014 at 12:11 PM

LC

“ Dr. Hood, it was a pleasure to visit with you and listen to your stories about your times working with the Austin Fire Department. Your interest in preserving the history of the Austin Fire Department helped to give us a foundation of knowledge when we started our AFD Museum and Archives back in '03. In speaking with many AFD retirees who worked through the 60s, 70s, and 80s it is apparent that you touched the lives of ALL of them in a positive manner. The history of the Austin Fire Department from the late 60s to the early 80s is not complete without the mention of Dr. Hood. LT. Jerry Cohen

LT Jerry Cohen - January 06, 2014 at 07:46 AM

DC

Kathy,

I am so sorry to hear about your Dad. Even though things were getting more challenging for him and he's at peace now, he leaves a huge empty hole in your lives. God bless you and your family.

Donna Claeys - January 07, 2014 at 03:01 PM

LS

The first time I met Dr. Hood wa at the bed side of my cousin who had been accidentally shot in the chest by her brother. Her brother called me and I sped to her home. I pranked the hole in her chest with a bed sheet. The ambulance came and we sped to Brackenridge Hospital. The young doctor on duty was totally out of his element. The nurses and I finally going got an IV going. I kept the wound compressed. I was expecting her to die. The young doctor was frozen in fear. Suddenly a pin striped suit appear across from be. I looked up and a handsome doctor perhaps about 37 was standing with his hands folded behind him. He looked so a ease. He told the nurse to remove the handkerchief from the wound. I told him my cousin had been shot with a 12 ga. Shotgun with #6 shot. And I had packed the hole with a bed sheet and kept it in compression. The doctor told the nurse to leave the bed sheet in. I asked the doctor if had ever taken care of a wound like that. He said only on people wounded in combat. I handed my cousin over to Dr. Maurice Hood, and he saved her life and right arm. My cousin, Penny Sandberg Cauchy lived to be 63 years old, and Dr. Hood a great friend. He operated on two of my uncles, and one aunt. He was the best. I was 23 years old then, and almost 87 now. I have told this Maurice Hood story many times. What a beautiful person he was.

Larry Smith - November 04, 2019 at 08:36 PM