



Bernard F Poracky M.D.

January 29, 1924 - July 23, 2014

Bernard Francis Poracky, M.D. ("Ben") retired Physician and Surgeon of Ogden Dunes, Indiana passed away at home on July 23, 2014. Ben was the beloved husband of the late Elizabeth Mae (Meyers) Poracky, RN. He is survived by his loving children: son John Poracky (Liz Finan) Chesterton, IN, grandchildren Rachel (Chicago) & John of (Houston); daughter Jean Haley (James) Oak Brook, IL; son Paul Poracky (Jennifer Miller) Ogden Dunes, IN grandchildren, Lara, Dana, Molly; and Daughter Ann Adams (James) St. Charles, IL, grandchildren Brian (Charlotte, NC) & Elizabeth. Ben is also survived by his sister Dorothy (Poracky) Hoover (Whiting, IN) and long time caregiver Maria Barbara Horoszko.

Ben was preceded in Death by his father John Poracky, mother Mary (Skurka) Poracky, brother Andrew Poracky & sister-in-law Mary (Jancosek) Poracky, sister Emma Pers and John Pers, brother-in-law, sister Ann Vrabel and George Vrabel, brother-in-law, sister Leona Zientara & Joe Zientara, brother-in-law and sister Mary Jane Macnak & Joe Macnak, brother-in-law.

Born January 29, 1924 in Whiting, IN attended St. John the Baptist Grade School and Whiting High School. Ben was President of his Junior Class and was President of the National Honor Society. Ben excelled in Academics graduating in 1941 at age 16. Ben attended Indiana University School of Medicine and earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Medicine (1944) and Doctor of Medicine (1946). Ben was the youngest Doctor to have ever graduated from the Indiana University Medical School at that time. Ben was a

member of Skeleton Club, Delta Upsilon Fraternity, Captain in the ROTC and Glee Club. After graduating, Ben served as an Intern at St. Margaret Hospital Hammond, IN 1946-1947.

Ben did his residency at the University of Pennsylvania 1948-1949 and graduate studies at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, in Radiology. Ben was certified with The American Board of Radiology (1950) and Board Certified by the American College of Radiology (1951). Fellow: Cook County Hospital, Chicago 1949-1957. Ben was a founding member of Radiological Associates of Northwest Indiana serving Porter, LaPorte & other contiguous counties. Ben became a member of the Radiological Society of North America in 1956 and the American Institute of Ultrasound Medicine in 1978. Ben was licensed to practice Medicine in Indiana, Illinois, California, Arizona, and New Mexico. Ben was a member of the Indiana Roentgen Society, Inc., Illinois Roentgen Society and the Chicago Roentgen Society. Dr. Bernard Poracky practiced Medicine for 50 years in Northwest Indiana caring for thousands of patients, many of whom surprised and honored him at his first retirement party by sharing many stories of how he saved their lives and always offered truly compassionate care. Not wanting to stay retired, Ben continued working part-time at Radiological Associates of Northwest Indiana and at Bethlehem Steel following his retirement party.

Bernard and his wife Elizabeth were involved in numerous Medical charity organizations.

Ben was an avid golfer and member of Innsbrook Country Club and Sand Creek Country Club, where he perfected his “dry” sense of humor. Ben was awarded the “Double Eagle Certificate of Recognition” by Golf Digest Magazine when on October 10, 1971 he shot a Double Eagle on the par 5, “old” 14th hole (2 strokes on a par 5) at Innsbrook Country Club. Ben enjoyed wearing his coveted Green Jacket with the Double Eagle crest. Ben was an accomplished Pianist and enjoyed playing his Steinway Piano, singing and entertaining family, friends and fellow passengers on many overseas cruises. Ben especially enjoyed serenading his late wife Elizabeth at home and playing

the piano on Saturday mornings to awaken his sleeping children. Ben also sang with the St. John's Church Choir, Whiting where he accompanied his father John, the church Cantor.

Ben met his beloved late wife Elizabeth ("Betty"), (Valedictorian of her Nursing Class) when serving his internship at St. Margaret Hospital. Bernard and Elizabeth were married on November 20, 1948. Ben and Betty enjoyed traveling the globe, golfing, and spending time with their four children, grandchildren and friends.

Ben was a devoted member of Nativity of Our Savior Catholic Church, Portage and former parishioner of St. Peter and Paul Church in Merrillville, IN. Friends may visit with Ben's family Sunday, July 27, 2014, from 3-7 p.m. at the Burns Funeral Home, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point, IN. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, July 28, 2014 at 10 a.m. at Nativity of Our Savior Church, 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage, IN, Father Andrew Corona officiating. Interment at Calumet Park Cemetery, 2305 W. 73rd Avenue, Merrillville, IN. In lieu of flowers, memorials to University of Chicago Cancer Research Foundation www.cancer.uchicago.edu/help/research-foundation on behalf of future research by Walter M. Stadler, M.D. On line condolences can be left at www.burnsfuneral.com.

The Poracky Family wishes to thank Dr. Michael C. Weiss and VNA Hospice Care.

Cemetery Details

Calumet Park Cemetery

2305 W. 73rd Ave.
Merrillville, IN 46410

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 27. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home & Crematory - Crown Point
10101 Broadway
Crown Point, IN 46307
(219) 769-0044
info@burnsfuneral.com
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

Funeral Service

JUL 28. 10:00 AM (CT)

Nativity of Our Savior Parish
2929 Willowcreek Road
Portage, IN

Tribute Wall

KO

“ I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to the Poracky Family. I have such great memories of Dr Poracky as we both were working with Radiologic Associates of NW IN for years ! He was such a kind man. I always enjoyed catching up with him on the phone once he was retired ! Kathleen Odum

Kathleen Odum - July 31, 2014 at 10:05 AM

KO

“ Deepest sympathy to the family of Bernard Poracky MD from all the radiologists of Radiologic Associates of NW IN .

Kathleen Odum - July 31, 2014 at 10:01 AM

BG

“ Many years ago I had several occasions to talk with Dr. Poracky when I played golf with my father, Bob Gerometta ,Sr. at the "Gary" Country club. I remember him as a very nice man. My condolences to the family.

Bob Gerometta, Jr.

Bob Gerometta - July 28, 2014 at 09:59 AM

MS

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Mary Jo Stegge - July 27, 2014 at 08:45 PM

MF

“ I send my deepest sympathy to the Poracky family. Melissa Finan

Melissa Finan - July 27, 2014 at 07:32 PM

MS

“ I remember that my Uncle Ben was a devoted brother to his sister and my mother, Leona. He loved coming over to our house as Leona would serve him coffee and homemade nut roll. We would sit at the kitchen table and talk. He was such a kind, gentle man who had an infectious laugh. So many fond memories will allow him to live on in our hearts. My very deepest sympathy to the entire Poracky family.

Love,
Mary Jo Zientara Stegge

Mary Jo Stegge - July 27, 2014 at 12:21 PM



“ Sherry and I send our condolences. I remember him mostly from the late 1960's when I lived in Gary and hung out at his Merrillville house. "Ben" was always friendly and welcoming. Our prayers and thoughts are with his family in this time of grief.

Bruce and Sherry Dunn, St. Paul, Texas.

Bruce Dunn - July 26, 2014 at 02:46 PM

JJ

“ My sympathy to the family of Dr. Poracky. I was employed with Radiologic Associates of NW In for 38 years, thinking very highly of Dr. Poracky and he was always very friendly and helpful. Our prayers are with you.
Phil and Joan "JO"Johnson Kouts, In.



Joan Johnson - July 26, 2014 at 10:15 AM

JJ

I too, along with Jo, was employed by Radiologic Associates of NW Indiana as an x-ray tech. I loved working with Dr. Poracky during my 15 years with the company. He always had a smile on his face and was so great with the patients. He will truly be missed.

*Jan (Nelson) Jarzynski
Foxboro, WI*

Janet (Nelson) Jarzynski - July 29, 2014 at 07:29 AM

BB

“ *My deepest sympathy to the entire Poracky family. My parents , Edward and Susan Alexovic, and I have a long history with your family. We came from Europe decades ago and were warmly welcomed by members your family in Whiting. I distinctly remember the grocery store on Indpls. Blvd. My parents were so grateful for the kindness shown us, Slovak immigrants, at the time. Sorry, our families lost touch. As I recall there was a distant relationship with our families, cousins I think. May God Bless all of you for your goodness and the contributions made by this great man.*

*Always in my prayers and thoughts.
Bridget (Alexovic) Bodefeld.*

Bridget Bodefeld - July 25, 2014 at 12:14 PM

MZ

“ *Mary Jo and Don Stegge along with Fran and Jim Zientara purchased the Secret Garden Basket for the family of Bernard F Poracky M.D..*



Mary Jo and Don Stegge along with Fran and Jim Zientara -
July 25, 2014 at 11:11 AM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Bernard F Poracky M.D..*



July 25, 2014 at 10:28 AM



“ *Ben and Betty were good friends with Arlene and myself in travel, golf, etc. Our sympathy to the family.*
R James Bills MD

R James Bills MD - July 25, 2014 at 08:00 AM



“ *Blooming Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bernard F Poracky M.D..*



July 24, 2014 at 04:58 PM



“ *Rainbow Reflections Basket was purchased for the family of Bernard F Poracky M.D..*



July 24, 2014 at 01:57 PM

SB

“ *Sally B. purchased the Greatest Love Casket Spray for the family of Bernard F Poracky M.D..*



Sally B. - July 24, 2014 at 01:11 PM