



## Dr. William Smith Kirk Jr.

September 22, 1952 - January 10, 2017

Dr. William Smith Kirk, Jr., 64, of Goldsboro, NC passed away at peace January 10, 2017 in Greenville, NC.

Born September 22, 1952 in Salisbury, NC he was the son of Lois Jean Smith and the late Dr. William Smith Kirk.

He attended Salisbury High School where he was quarterback for the football team. Dr. Kirk studied at Wheaton College where he also quarterbacked and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He completed his residency at Vanderbilt University in 1978.

Dr. Kirk was highly respected as an oral surgeon in the Charlotte area for 35 years. He had a lifelong dedication to education, coaching, and publishing. Outside of his work, he loved gardening, golf, boating, and spending time with his children and grandchildren. He had recently relocated to Goldsboro to join Triangle Implant Center Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery to simplify his life and return to a small-town life...

He is a native of Salisbury and a 3rd generation dental provider. Collectively, the Kirk family has provided dental care in general, orthodontic, and surgical dental care for over 91 years. Dr. Kirk was a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill School of Dentistry and received his oral and maxillofacial surgery training at Vanderbilt University. During his years in Charlotte, he maintained an active

solo practice with hospital procedures performed primarily at Carolinas Medical Center-Mercy, and Novant Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte. He helped develop MRI imaging protocols of the temporomandibular joint (TMJ) with the Department of Radiology, CMC-Mercy in the late 1980s.

Dr. Kirk specialized in orthopedic surgery of the jaw joint and surgical and non-surgical management for patients with TMJ disorder. He served as President of the American Society of TMJ Surgeons from 2003-05 and has published numerous papers in the peer-reviewed surgical literature and chapters in surgical texts.

Dr. Kirk expressed great pride in the accomplishments of his four children: Jason, Ben, Taylor, and Katie. Jason obtained his BA in journalism and international studies at UNC-Chapel Hill and PhD in political science at the University of Pennsylvania and is Associate Professor at Elon University. Ben obtained his BS, MS, and PhD in aerospace engineering at the University of Texas and is branch chief in the engineering directorate at NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston. Taylor graduated from Texas A&M University with a BS in agronomy and is Superintendent of the Track and Grounds at Circuit of The Americas in Austin. Katie earned a BS in economics (Summa Cum Laude) at East Carolina University and was a scholarship athlete for the Lady Pirates golf team 2011-2015. She completed her MS in economics at ECU and is working for BB&T as a Bankcard Portfolio Analyst.

Along with his father, he is preceded in death by his brother in law, Tom Spicknall.

Those left to cherish his memory are his mother Lois; sister, Peg Spicknall; brother, Tim Kirk and wife Kim; children Jason and wife Deepa, Ben and wife Lindsay, Taylor and wife Meg, Katie and grandchildren Jenna, Arun, Lauren, Uma, Collin, Cade, and Allison; and niece and nephews, John, Susan, Ryan, and Davis.

A Memorial Service will be held at 4:30PM Sunday, January 15, 2017 in the

Summersett Memorial Chapel, Salisbury, NC.

Memorials may be made to Woods Grove Church, 4009 Central Heights Rd, Goldsboro, NC 27534; American Heart Association, 128 S Tryon St #1588, Charlotte, NC 28202; or to the donors favorite charity.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Kirk family. Online condolences may be made at [www.summersettfuneral.com](http://www.summersettfuneral.com).

# Previous Events

## Service

JAN 15. 4:30 PM (ET)

Summersett Memorial Chapel  
1315 W. Innes St.  
Salisbury, NC 28144

# Tribute Wall



“ *Summersett Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. William Smith Kirk Jr.*



---

**Summersett Funeral Home and Cremation Center** - January 20, 2017 at 02:07 PM

SE

“ *Dr. Kirk's extracted my son's impacted wisdom tooth just last week. His professionalism and understanding of my son's special needs was amazing. In reading all that he has accomplished in his life I can see why he was a well respected physician. So sorry for your loss.*

---

**Sharon E** - January 15, 2017 at 07:36 AM

LN

“ *Lawton and Dottie Nisbet purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dr. William Smith Kirk Jr..*



---

**Lawton and Dottie Nisbet** - January 14, 2017 at 12:26 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. William Smith Kirk Jr..*



January 13, 2017 at 07:27 PM



“ *The Summers Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. William Smith Kirk Jr..*



**The Summers Family** - January 13, 2017 at 03:45 PM



“ *From, The Members of The American Society of TMJ Surgeons purchased the Bright and Beautiful Spray for the family of Dr. William Smith Kirk Jr..*



**From, The Members of The American Society of TMJ Surgeons** - January 13, 2017 at 03:26 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Dr. William Smith Kirk Jr..*



January 13, 2017 at 03:16 PM

DM

“ *Bill was always a staunch supporter of everything the ASTMJS stood for, and his enthusiasm, knowledge and counsel will be sorely missed, but not forgotten.*  
*Lou Mercuri*

---

**Dr. Louis G. Mecuri** - January 13, 2017 at 11:31 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. William Smith Kirk Jr..*



---

January 13, 2017 at 11:02 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. William Smith Kirk Jr..*



---

January 13, 2017 at 07:18 AM

JB

“ I am so shocked and saddened by this news! Bill has long been a treasured member of our ASTMJS family. He was always known for his keen intellect, knowledge of the literature, and a professor's ability to express his views in the written word. He had the unusual ability to see through the superficial and to question the facts of presentations and new ideas. Much like Clyde Wilkes, Bill demanded the science to support presentations, and was ever a supporter of our ASTMJS dialogue and meetings. Personally, I will miss a friend who shared my love of golf. We played many rounds together, with most of us being amazed at how much better he was than us despite having a limited amount of playing time. He was a kind and gentle friend who was so proud of his family. Both of us had multiple children, and he couldn't talk enough about his children's achievements. I wasn't sure if soon I would be able to see his daughter on the tour one day. I too grieve for his family, as I know how much the void that is left is unfillable. Our meetings at ASTMJS just won't be the same without Bill, and my golf game will be better having known and played the game with Bill. But, my heart will miss a true friend and our society and family will miss an innovator and supporter that can't be replaced. God's blessing and grace to his family. He will watch over you all.

*Jack Buhrow, DDS, MS - President of the American Society of TMJ Surgeons (ASTMJS)*

---

**Jack Buhrow** - January 12, 2017 at 11:40 PM

DS

“ I am so sorry to hear about the passing of my colleague and friend, Dr. Bill Kirk. We were fellow members of the American Society of Temporomandibular Joint Surgeons. I always looked forward to seeing him, and "catching up" at our annual meetings since the late 1980s. Dr. Kirk was a brilliant oral and maxillofacial surgeon who devoted so much to the goal of reducing pain and suffering associated with severe temporomandibular joint diseases and disorders.

*Bill was such a good and honorable man; and I will miss him. My deepest condolences to his family. My thoughts and prayers are with them at this difficult time.*

*I know at all members of the American Society of Temporomandibular Joint Surgeons, a group that Dr. Kirk loved so much, will honor him and keep him in our hearts.*

*Dr. Bruce Sanders  
Malibu, CA  
1/12/2017*

---

**Dr. Bruce Sanders** - January 12, 2017 at 10:55 PM

SL

“ I am so deeply saddened and sorry to hear of Bill's passing! I have so so many fantastic memories over the years and will never forget how much he taught me about patient care and more importantly the many conversations we had about how so very proud of his wife and children he was! As well, how he and I served as President of ASTMJS, he in 2003-2005 and me the following term, he was such a pleasure to work with within the organization, always looking for what was best for the science of TMJ. He will be sorrowly missed by all that had the good fortune of knowing him, especially me!  
My sincere condolences I pray that G-d will give his family the strength to endure this very difficult time!

---

**Scott Levin** - January 12, 2017 at 10:40 PM

DR

“ We were deeply saddened to hear of Bill's death. I recall that he was a vibrant witness for Christ and attempted excellence in every aspect of his life.

*Jeffrey and Debbie Richards*

---

**Dr. Jeffrey Richards** - January 12, 2017 at 07:17 PM

LK

“ Every year for Christmas, he gave me a nutcracker. One year he decided to give me a wind up nutcracker that sang Jingle Bells and skied on a slope. It was my favorite.

*I love you Sassy K.*

*-Lauren*

---

**Lauren Kirk** - January 12, 2017 at 05:15 PM



“ *With Distinction was purchased for the family of Dr. William Smith Kirk Jr..*



---

January 12, 2017 at 04:42 PM



“ *Bill and I were great friends. Our families worshipped together and Dr. Kirk Sr. put braces on me twice. In recent years Bill and I stayed in touch and had very stimulating conversations about our past, our families, our children, our life experiences and our futures. He would often call out of nowhere just to say hello and to reminisce. I am shocked and so sad about this, but he lived an amazing life and left quite a legacy. He was so proud of his kids and grandkids and I was always blown away with his stories about them and their accomplishments. We have lost a great guy and he's left us way too soon. I grieve for the family... and this has made me cherish life even more. My prayers are with you all through this horrific time, and always.*

*Kay Ritchie Peeler*

---

**kay peeler** - January 12, 2017 at 04:32 PM



“ *Mrs. Kirk, Peggy and Tim: Please know that you and your families are in my prayers. I remember Bill fondly from our growing-up days. May God's peace be with you.*

*Marianna Long Walser*

---

**Marianna Long Walser** - January 12, 2017 at 03:56 PM

GB

*Brad and I send our condolences to all of the family. Bill went into the more immediate presence of our Lord way too soon. He was a talented professional and a good Father. We have many happy memories of good times with him. Prayers that he is in peace and that your grief will be comforted.*

*Ginger and Brad Bowman*

---

**Ginger Bowman** - January 12, 2017 at 05:29 PM

NC

*We were very saddened to learn of Bill's passing. When we moved to North Carolina in the early 80's, Bill and his family were among the first to welcome us into a new church family at Carmel. Our friendship through the coming years meant a great deal to us. We send our prayers and condolences to all of his family.*

*Rick and Nancy Cork*

---

**Nancy Cork** - January 17, 2017 at 04:52 AM