



Dr. Bennett Dixon Cotten, Jr., M.D. Obituary

March 6, 1953 - September 24, 2013

Dr. Bennett Dixon Cotten, Jr., M.D., 60, of Albany, died Tuesday, September 24, 2013 at Phoebe North Hospital.

His funeral service will be at 2 PM on Friday, September 27, 2013 at First United Methodist Church with interment to follow at Crown Hill Cemetery. The Rev. Dr. Don Adams will officiate. Pallbearers are: Michael Clark, Chip Stone, Ron Register, Will Reese, Lewis Webb, Fritz Turpin, Stacey Purdue, and Lewis Ledger. Honorary pallbearers are: Tom Hilsman, M.D., Dewitt Webb, Sam Strickland, M.D., Cullen Richardson, M.D., Tim Trulock, M.D., Chandler Berg, M.D., James Palazzolo, M.D., Price Corr, M.D., Wayne Holley, M.D., Duncan Marsh, M.D., Scott McGhee, M.D., Thomas Ungarino, M.D., Craig Mithchell, M.D., Usup Choi, M.D., Al Rakel, Asa Kelley, Walter Kelley, Britt Riles, Wayne Riles, Wil Campbell, PhD, and Jack Duren.

A native and life-long resident of Albany, Dr. Cotten attended schools in Albany, and graduated from Albany High School in 1971. He graduated from the University of Georgia in 1975, and from the Medical College of Georgia in 1979. Dr. Cotten completed his internship in general surgery at Greenville Hospital Systems, Greenville, SC, and he completed his orthopedic residency at the University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. He returned to Albany to begin his practice as an orthopedic surgeon in 1984, and continued his practice until his death. Dr. Cotten was Board Certified by the American Board of Orthopedic Surgeons. His medical memberships include the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, American College of Surgeons, Dougherty

County Medical Society, American Medical Association, Southern Medical Association, Southern Orthopedic Association, James W. Harkess Society, Wilderness Medical Society, and the Georgia Orthopedic Society. Dr. Cotten volunteered as a team physician for high school sports teams in the area. He was selected as a team physician for the U.S. Olympic Team in 1996. He was one of the Founding Directors of Albany Bank and Trust. Dr. Cotten was a longtime member of the First United Methodist Church of Albany. He was a former member of the Rotary Club and the Lions Club.

Dr. Cotten is survived by his wife: Mary Linda Cotten, Albany; his 2 sons: Bennett Dixon Cotten, III and Bradford Howard Cotten, both of Albany; his brother: David Bates Cotten, Albany; his uncle: Kermit Henderson (DeLaine), Albany; his father-in-law: Dr. Howard J. Williams, Jr., Macon; his brother-in-law: Dr. Howard J. Williams, III, Atlanta; his sister-in-law: Carol Williams Greenbaum, Atlanta; several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

The family will receive friends at Kimbrell-Stern on Thursday from 5:30-7:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the First United Methodist Church, 307 Flint Ave., Albany, GA 31701.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **26**. 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Kimbrell-Stern Funeral Directors
1503 Dawson Rd.
Albany, GA 31707

Funeral Service

SEP **27**. 2:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church
307 Flint Ave
Albany, GA 31701

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Bennett Dixon Cotten, Jr., M.D. Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Dr. Bennett Dixon Cotten, Jr., M.D. Obituary*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *Dr Cotten will suddenly be missed by all who knew and had the opportunity to work with him. My prayers and thoughts are with his family. With heart felt love and sympathy..... mrs Brown*

Mrs Anne Brown - Abany, GA - worked @ phoebe in E.R for years - April 29, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dr. Cotten was a wonderful and very kind person. He was very easy to talk with, and always had joke. He will be dearly missed.*

Jacquelyn Allen-Polite - Columbus, GA - patient - November 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dr Cotton was such a wonderful doctor and a Christian man that prayed with me before my surgery on my knee. I will truly miss him and I am so sorry to here this*

Cathy Shaw - Midland, GA - Former Patient and friend - October 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM

HN

“ I am so saddened to know about Bennett's passing. I knew he was sick and was so sad to get the news that he passed. I grew up with Bennett in First Methodist Sunday School. When I became a RN, my first job was on the Orthopedic floor at Phoebe. He was always happy and joking! He really kidded me when I broke my arm at work. I will never forget his smile and his jokes! At least he is joking in Heaven!

Harriet Bragg Tate - Albany, GA - friend and PPMH nurse - October 04, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ I was shocked to hear about the best their is in Albany, Ga. my home town. I graduated from Albany High School in 1972, which Dr. Cotton graduated in 1971. Then 30 years later, 2001, he replaced my hip. To this day I see people having problems after hip replacement, I told them all you should have went to Albany, Georgia>Dr. Cotton! I have a GREAT HIP because of this wonderful Dr. My heartfelt sympathy goes out to all the friend and family. Truly the BEST.

Sterling B. Snellgrove - Prattville, AL - Patient - October 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ Dr. Cotten allways had a wonderfu; sense of humor. He was an absolute pleasure to work with. I will rember him in my prayers as well as his family

Patrick S Price - Corinth, MS - Worked as Orthopaedic Tech at Ph - October 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *May you find peace and comfort with the memories of all the wonderful moments you have shared. May the consolation that comes from the knowledge that Bennett is now with his Heavenly Father, give you peace. And may the love of God, which knows no limits, calm the ache in your hearts. Bennett touched not only the bodies of the injured, he brought God's grace to the hearts and souls of all he encountered. With our love and prayers.*

Michael and Sylvia Szpak - Albany, GA - September 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ *Mary Linda,
You are in our thoughts and prayers during this time of loss and sorrow. Dr. Cotten touched so many people in his lifetime, and was a friend to me and my family during our time in Albany. I will always remember the great times that we had, especially the 4th of July picnic and fireworks. Know that you are not alone as Jesus is there with you, holding you and carrying you through this difficult time. Take care, and may you find comfort in God's presence.*

Sincerely,

Mark, Amy, Helen Renee, and Mary Katherine Rader

Mark Rader - Parkland, FL - Friend of the Family - September 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ *Cotten Family:*

My condolences to your family. I called on Dr. Cotten as one of his trauma reps at Phoebe Putney for 10 years. He was responsible for getting my system in Phoebe and I was forever grateful. Whenever I would see him he would always say " you know I was responsible for getting that Italian junk in the hospital" (with a smile on his face). He was letting me know I was ok in his book.

Albany will miss him. He made a difference in many lives. I will always smile when I hear that name.

Best regards,

*David Ryan
"EBI rep" 1995-2005*

David Ryan - Acworth, GA - Business - September 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ *Wonderfully caring physician...*

Dr. Steve W. Batson - Albany, GA - Patient - September 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ *My thoughts and prays go out to the family and friends of Dr. Cotton. I was a patient of his, he did my knee replacement surgery this past Feb. and he was a very kind and thoughtful Dr. My husband would often go into the office visits with me over in Cordele and he and Dr Cotton would enjoy talking about hunting and what kind of guns they had. He was very down to earth, yet gifted Dr. He will be missed by many.*

Sheila Durham - Cobb, GA - patient - September 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

J(

“ Mary Linda, Dixon & Bradford, This sad news reached me today. I know Bennett was as much of a loving husband & daddy as he was a doctor. My love, prayers & sympathy go out to each of you. Love, Jan

Jan Sapp Bentley - Mt. Pleasant, SC - Dixon's Kdg. teacher (Hodges) -
September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ Dr. Cotton performed a neck fusion on me in 1986. I remember him as very caring and concerned. He was a wonderful man and physician. My condolences to his family. He will forever be in your hearts. Sincerely, Bonnie Frantz.

Bonnie Elliott Frantz - Strasburg, VA - former patient - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Dr. Cotten will forever be remembered in the hearts of all his family, friends, and patients as a man of the highest integrity and kindness. Sending prayers of comfort and peace to all who knew and loved him.

Brandy Rich Pavelka - Marietta, GA - family friend - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ Dr. Cotten and I go back several years. He performed sugery on my knee and he had great bedside manners. He always made me smile and listen to me. He was not only a doctor but I am proud to call him a friend.

To the family, I know what you are feeling because I recently loss my mother. Just find comfort in the fact that he was loved by many and he will be missed. He gave so much in his field and that is a true blessing.

I am going to miss my "Dr. Cotten" because he treated me and others with respect. RIP.

Linda Nix

Linda Nix - Albany, GA - Doctor and Patient - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

VP

“ Dr. Cotton performed knee replacement surgury for me several years ago. He was a remarkable doctor. He always made everyone feel special. Always a smile and full of humor, with a story to tell of his love for fishing on lake Seminole, you couldnot help but feel better in his presence. He seemed to have all the time in the world for anyone. He will truly be missed. I recently went for a checkup and after hearing of his passing I am so thankful for the visit with him. We not only lost a wonderful doctor but a great friend. Love and prayers to the family.

Vivian Darley - Bainbridge, GA - Patient-friend - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ Doctor Cotton was a wonderful, caring and beautiful person. He was not only my doctor by a true friend.

Doc and his family were there for me with my son Jack when he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. My church had a benefit for Jack, and Doc and his family donated all the meat to help us out! They were always involved in all the Smithville Chicken Pie Festivals, without them it would have not been such a success. Doc and Premier Orthopedics sponsored the Chicken Pie Run. Every time I came to the office for my appointments, Doc would always greet me with open arms, and such concern for me and my son.

doc will be missed by all, but I feel better knowing he now in peace and is taking care of Jack for me! Jack passed away Sept. 11 2013.

Joy Sanders - Smithville, GA - friend and patient - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ *Dr. Cotton was a wonderful loving person. He seemed to have all the time in the world and made everone in his presence feel special. He will truly be missed. We not only lost a great Doctor but a cherished frend. Love and prayers to the family. Vivian Darley.*

Penny Rackley - Bainbridge, GA - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Hi, Sis. Mary Linda Carter. My name is Mary Sims. I worked with Dr Cotten from the time he came to O.R. until I retired in 1998 because of MS. I circulated & scrubbed on many of his cases. He was a joy/pleasure to work with. I loved every day I worked with him. He was a very gifted surgeon & didn't mind sharing his expertise with me or anyone. I haven't seen him in a good while but I often thought of him because of his kind & gentle personality. My prayers are with you & your family. May God continue to bless you mightily & know that God does not make a mistake. Live day to day. Remember the good times. As days pass, it does get better. My husband died in 12/2008.

mary sims - albany, GA - co-worker - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ I just would like to send my condolences to the family and say what a wonderful person Dr. Cotten was. He cared for me when I had a cyst in my right hip that caused a fracture on the pelvic bone. Dr. Cotten performed surgery and corrected my problem. My fun memory of him was when he would call me chicken because I wouldn't let him draw fluid off my knee or do something that I thought was extreme with out putting me to sleep. So he always call me chicken saying I was scared of everything. I will truly miss him and may God bless the family and know that he is in a better place pain free.

R.I.P Dr. Bennett Dixon Cotton, Jr., M.D.

Cynthia Grier - Moultrie, GA - Patient - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ My deepest sympathy to the Cotten Family. Dr. Cotten was always a pleasure to work with and treated me with great professional courtesy. He always had something humorous to say. His pt.'s always spoke very highly of him and that in and of itself says alot about the Man and Physician he was. He will be missed in our community.

Bonnie Sisk, PA-C - Albany, GA - Friend, Colleague - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ Carl and I extend our deepest sympathy to Mary Linda, and sons. We are deeply sorry for your loss and you all are in our thoughts and prayers.x

Dr and Mrs. Carl Hancock - Albany, GA - Fellow Physian - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ I had the oppurtunity to be one of his very first patients when he 1st came to albany and later work for him for several years. He also was my 91yr old mother in laws doctor . We will truly miss him and his kindness and sweet caring ways. He has been a blessing in our lives. Our prayer and thought go out to you and your family. God bless.

beth rouse - leesburgj, GA - friend - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Leave a condolence or a memory.

beth rouse - leesburgj, GA - friend - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ *Dr. Cotton was a wonderful doctor. He had the ability of making each of his patients feel special in their relationship with him. I always felt I was not only his patient but a friend. I am a Sumter City girl and how he loved to refer to me as his friend from Sumter City. Many times when in his office, I would see other of his Sumter City friends and he would chuckle at the reunion we always had in his office. I express my sympathies for your loss. I know he loved his family so much. I am honored that I had the opportunity to know him and mourn with you his loved ones in his loss. Praying blessing over each of you.*

Nancy Rumph - Albany, GA - friend/patient - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TN

“ *Deepest sympathy*

Tueisha Grant,RN - Cordele, GA - Rehab Nurse - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ *We extend our sincerest sympathy to Mary Linda and family. Bennett will be greatly missed as a family man, outstanding physician, and friend.*

Bob and Pat Jones - Rutherfordton, NC - Friend - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ To the Cotten family, we are deeply saddened by your loss. Dr. Cotten was a great friend, neighbor, and doctor. We will forever have him in our memories. We are here for you all if you ever need us.

*With Deepest Regards,
The Jones & Smothers family*

Jones & Smothers family - Smithville, GA - Friend and Neighbor - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Ok I have to leave a tribute for my parents! As I said I was his office nurse in the early 90's! Mom and Dad just reminded me of the dun genesis crabs he wanted from Seattle! Mom had them on dry ice and flown with them! Never forget!!! My parents brought the cooler to him at 8am' he started eating them right then!! Hilarious!! We love you Dr. Cotten! My sisters loved your prank calls too! "He Lives" from my daddy's pulpit to every other!

Kim Stirling-Downs, Dr. And Mrs. Al Thompson, Keri Stirling, Lau - orange Beach , AL - Friends!! - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

EF

“ Bennett was the senior partner in the orthopedic group i joined when i first went into practice. he was one of the main reasons i came from louisville to practice in a small town in southwest georgia. he was a great surgeon. i was supposed to be the fancy spinal surgery specialist and yet i often asked him to scrub in with me or asked his advice about difficult cases. he was a friend, a colleague and also a mentor to me in how to live as a physician, a father, a husband, and as a Christian. He was always so gracious to me, and we spent a lot of time together talking. I was single when i lived in Albany and he and his family always went out of their way to include me in their holiday plans. When I left Albany to practice in Tifton, I felt I did what God had laid on my heart to do, but it was hard to leave Bennett's group when he had done so much for me. As everyone knows, he also had a funny side. I remember being at a boring office christmas party where everyone was just standing around and he got up on the dance floor and started dancing like a chicken and everyone started to laugh and began having a good time. Bennett, you will be missed and you were loved by so many. I am thankful that God placed you in my life for a time. Thank you for everything. Ed Hellman

ed hellman - chula, GA - friend - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Dr. Cotten was my go to friend that I talked with all the time. He will be missed. Your jokes and pranks will most definitely be our loss.

Katy Mason - Smithville, GA - family friend - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Dr. Cotten was a wonderful man with a wonderful heart. I will miss him.

Sara Mumm - Doles, GA - Patient - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

HG

“ My condolences to Dr. Cotten's family! My wife (Joyce) and I have lost a Doctor and good friend!

Harold Wayne Dutt - Albany, GA - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ God himself will be with them. And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away.”—Revelation 21:3, 4.

Jehovah God makes this possible by means of his Son, Jesus, who gave his life for the world of mankind. (John 3:16) Under Jesus' direction, humankind will be brought to perfection. There will no longer be any suffering because “God himself will be with them” and will erase “every tear from their eyes.” Human imperfection and suffering will soon be a thing of the past; “the righteous themselves will possess the earth, and they will reside forever upon it.”—Psalm 37:29.

We loved Dr. Cotten dearly and he will always be a part of our O.R. team through the memories and impressions he has left on each of our hearts, minds, and souls. He brought laughter when we wanted to cry, he brought sunshine when we had rain, he brought spirit when we were lost at heart. In behalf of Crisp Regional Surgical Services, we would like to express our condolences and please know that your family is in our prayers.

CRISP REGIONAL SURGICAL SERVICES - CORDELE, GA - CO-WORKERS -
September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ *Time is what The Lord give us to heal. In time your memories will return. In time the pain will subside.*

Rc Clyde and family - Albany, GA - Friend of the family - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ *I was stunned by the news of Dr. Cotten's passing. To me, he was larger than life! I met him as a patient, but it didn't take long for me to see him as a friend. He was never too busy to spend time with me. He shared his personal phone number with me and the few times I needed him, he always answered. I am so sad that he is gone and I will miss him.*

Kathleen Batson - Albany, GA - Patient and Friend - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ *Sending condolences to the Cotten family from the McKemies. Sad to hear of his passing. Bennett and I were friends at Albany High and we took Chemistry II together with Mr. Glenn Creech. Spent our afternoons rolling mercury around in our hands, vaporizing pennies in nitric acid under the vent gas hood-dangerous stuff which would certainly be banned now.*

Bennett was "A man of infinite jest". Always quick with a joke, full of humanity and understanding of the human condition. Several surgeons here in KY were friends of Bennett from his days at UGA and greatly appreciated his personality.

I know he will be missed by all of Albany, and we honor his passing with remembrance of his good will and charity to others.

*Gordon McKemie
Anchorage, KY*

Gordon McKemie - Louisville , KY - high school friend - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

WF

“ I met Dr. Cotton when I started @ Phoebe in 1988. He did my first surgery, Bi-carpal tunnel, and 3 others over the years. He was always personal and so caring.. teased me about all the problems he had to fix was typical of us nurses and doctors.. I trusted him with all that he did and was sooo satisfied. My last surgery that he did was this past June 11.... Professional as usual and he was probably sick then. And when my Mom had a stroke and I had to retire early without insurance coverage, Dr. Cotten helped me with my bill every time I had to come to the office. God does not know how much we will miss him, but our Heavenly Father sure has a FANTASTIC doctor in HEAVEN to help him out if he needs any help. My prayers are with you all b/c I know no one will ever replace our Dr. Cotton in your hearts and ours.

Warena Youmans - Chula, GA - RN @ Phoebe, patient, friend - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ Mary Linda, Dixon, and Bradford, my heart goes out to you and your family. Bennett was a treasure to work with and funny, and mischievous. I was raised in Louisville, Ky, so we always had plenty to talk about. He was unique, and it was a pleasure working with him. I kept waiting on the phone call telling me he was on his way up to the here (South Dakota) to go pheasant hunting. He was a good friend and I will miss him dearly. My prayers are with you all. God Bless

Becky

Rebecca Moore McFarling - Pierre, SD - work related - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ *Dr. Cottons Family,*

Sorry for the loss of Dr. Cotton, I worked with him at Crisp Regional Hospital. He was always interested in " what I was up to these days". He will be greatly missed.

*Edward Shurley
CRH PACU*

Edward Shurley - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ *Mary Linda, Dixon and Bradford,*

The medical community has lost a dear friend and colleague. Bennett always had a kind word and a wonderful sense of humor. He was admired by his peers and cherished by his patients. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Jeff and Anita Bell - Albany, GA - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ *I was so shocked when I saw this news on Facebook. Dr. Cotten was a true physician and friend to our family, especially during the time that my husband, Russ, was dealing with the issues from his broken leg and consequent death. Dr. Cotten gave me his personal number and said call me anytime. I did, and when he answered was not in Albany, but in Denver, but he listened and helped our family. We will all miss you so very much. Our thoughts and prayerds go to your family.*

Brenda Ober - Mcdonough, GA - patient, friend - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ *Loved this man as many did. Generous as person as well as a doctor!*

claire tays - albany, GA - patient - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ *I remember a few Christmas's ago Dr. Cotten came into Palmyra dressed as Santa! It was so him to do that. I will remember that this Christmas and smile!*

kathy chelmer - albany, GA - co worker - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ *Albany has lost a great physician, Dr. Cotton will be greatly missed and we are sending prayers for him and his family. May he rest in peace.*

Billy & Sharon Hembree - Baconton, GA - Patient & Friend - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ *My heart continues to ache over the passing of Dr. Cotten. One of my most recent memories, just last week, was of him giving me a a "thumbs-up". I also will never forget, the day he purchased Dilly Bars for my birthday... I'm not quite so sure that he didn't enjoy them as much if not more than I did. :) Yes, he and I will some day enjoy these again.*

Praying for his family (Ms Mary Linda and sons), friends and all those that love him. He will definately be missed.

Jean Larson - Albany, GA - "Just the PA" (Premier Ortho) - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ From elementary grades through high school, everyone knew Bennett was going to be a doctor someday. His death is sad news. Mary Linda and family,
I send my sincerest sympathy to you.

Janet Davis Dyess - Valdosta, GA - classmate and friend - September 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ worked in both hospitals with dr.cotten for 25 years will miss him and his witty ways.he was also both of our doctors most of theses years we will have a hard time replacing him.our thoughts and prayers are with his family

doris and james nesmith - leesburg, GA - coworker and patient - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ Please know that you are in our thought and prayers during this difficult time. God bless!

John and Gloria Verenakis - Albany, GA - neighbor - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ Mary Linda...you and the boys are in my thoughts and prayers.
Connie Finnicum

Connie Finnicum - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

FF

“ Mary Linda and family..Gayle and I want you to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Your husband was a wonderful, caring doctor and friend to so many. Praying Jesus will hold you close in the days ahead, and give you peace and comfort in knowing that because HE lives, Bennett does too. One day, you will see that smiling face again. Blessings and love..Franklin and Gayle Vorse

franklin vorse - albany - friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ Mary Linda:
I still can't believe your Bennett is gone. But the glorious thing about it is we know where he went. Heaven is rejoicing in his arrival and Bennett will keep all the wounds and bruises well in heaven, for sure. He was a man of high integrity and courage and I think he showed his greatest courage in the way he died.....Truly, the last chapter of his book will be amazing!!
Know we love you and are here to help in any way we can.

Much love, Patsy

Patsy Martin - Albany, GA - very good friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ MARY LINDA,BOYS,AND FAMILY-SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS.BENNETT WAS A GREAT PHISICIAN AND WILL BE MISSED BY SO MANY PEOPLE.WE WILL KEEP YOU IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS!!!

LAWANA & TOM FRIDDELL

LAWANA SHERRILL FRIDDELL - ALBANY, GA - CLASSMATE AND FRIEND -
September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ Dr Cotten was my Dr and my friend. We laughed, talked, had many pleasant conversations-if you could get him to sit there an extra minute or two:). I was stunned, saddened, and grieved when. I heard of his death. The Lord says that he rests until the resurrection day. We have this hope-I can hardly wait!

Bonnie Reilly - Albany, GA - Patient - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ I am sorry for your loss. I had the pleasure to work, supplying Orthopedic hardware to Bennett during his residency in Louisville. He was a good surgeon & a good friend back then.

Barry Stokes - Louisville , KY - Friend from Louisville - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ To the Family of Bennett Cotten,

We are sorry to hear of Dr. Cotten's passing. He was a caring person/doctor

whose candle burned out way before his memory every will. Words cannot

comfort those who are grieving. Please know others share your pain and

grief. We will continue to pray God will wrap His arms around you and give

peace and comfort needed at this time and the days ahead.

Bubba and Cathy Ivey - Albany, GA - Friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ So very sorry for your loss.He was a wonderful person, Doctor and Friend.. He will truly be missed.

Donald Beard - Dawson, GA - Good Friend. Patient - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ Just wanted to say a few words today, with a heavy heart, about my friend Dr. Bennett Cotten who passed away yesterday. My prayers go out to his wife, Mary Linda and his two sons, Bradford and Dixon. Dr. Cotten has always been a good friend to me as well as Hi-Energy. He never hesitated to help me in any way possible from doing commercials to putting himself on billboards and referring people to the Center. He truly believed in this program and me and was not afraid or embarrassed to let people know his struggles with his weight. I don't have to say it here because he knew how much I appreciated him as well as how much he appreciated me. My friend will be truly missed by his family most but also by the many people he touched along the way in his very short time with us.

Ronda Brookerd - Albany, GA - Hi-Energy Weight Control Center - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ My broken heart joins the many broken hearts with the passing of Dr. Cotton. He was not only my physician, but a good friend as well, being labeled his "adopted mom". He could embellish a story better than anyone and had the greatest sense of humor. My thoughts and prayers are with Mary Linda and the boys. May God wrap is loving arms around you, giving you strength to get thru this time of grief and the days that follow. This fine man, doctor and friend to many, will be greatly missed.
Donna B Blackwell
Albany, Georgia

Donna B Blackwell - Albany, GA - Friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ The first time I seen Doc before my surgery, I was wearing a Parents Day Kappa Delta shirt (My Daughter was a K.D. & is now alum)
He started singing me a song (I had no idea what it was) He said I'll bet you didn't expect an old man to know that song. I laughed & said what was it.
He told me it was from his UGA days & it was the Kappa Delta Theme song.
We both laughed at this like 2 little kids.
He made me feel so comfortable. This is a big plus before Surgery.
He was also my Husbands Surgeon. We were saddened to here of his passing.
Doctor Cotten, I will think of you everytime I hear the KD song.

Sue Freeman - Dawson, GA - Patient & Friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Mary Linda our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Robert and LaTresa Fleet - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Thank you Dr. Cotten for being Friend and Doctor. There is hardly a day that goes by that you, yours Boys, or Mary Linda's name is not mentioned in our home. Whether it be a funny story from a fishing/ hunting trip/scuba dive, concerns about heavy rain at the farm ,or just being so thankful that Lew can walk and has his leg. You fixed him so many times.. We are so thankful that your family touched our lives in so many good ways. Our days have been saddened since the news of your illness and now our hearts ache and we miss you so. We will continue to keep your memory alive because we know you want us to live happy and enjoy life as you did. You will be truly missed. Mary Linda and Boys,we will always be here for you and we will continue to Pray for you.

Lewis Ledger & Carol Kelley

Lewis Ledger and Carol Kelley - Andersonville, GA - Friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

WC

“ I want to extend my deepest sympathy to you on your loss. Bennett was a good friend in medical school and though we have lost touch over the many years since, he was always a fine gentleman. His good humor and easy going nature instantly put all who knew him at ease and I am sure he is a great loss to the community of Albany in addition to the loss to his family. Please accept my heartfelt grief for you and I hope you may find peace in knowing he has simply moved to another place where we shall all meet again.

Bill Herrington MD

William Herrington MD FACR - Athens, GA - MCG Classmate - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ When I heard of this news I was completely stunned. My very first nursing job was Dr. Cotten's office nurse in the early 90's. I still remember his love for gingerbread men with raisin buttons and a ton of sugar and cream with a touch of coffee! Dr. Cotten was a wonderful person and physician. He treated every patient with respect, kindness, and as individuals! He loved taking care of others! I remember how much he loved his wife and two sons! He was so full of life and shared that happiness and smile to all who knew him! His sense of humor can be unmatched ! I love you Dr. cotten and will always remember you as my mentor and most of all my friend! God bless you Mary Linda and the kids! My heart and prayers remain with you all!

Kim Stirling-Downs, RN - Orange Beach, AL - Friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ Dr. Cotten not only was my doctor he was my friend. We enjoyed many delightful conversations in his office. He always saw me when I had a problem, and was quick to do so. He was a fine man and will be greatly missed. I know I already miss him. R.I.P. Dr. Cotten!

Beverly Jackson - Albany, GA - Patient - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ BENNETT WAS A LOVELY MAN AND WILL BE MISSED. CAROL JOINS ME IN EXTENDING OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY'S TO MARY LINDA, BENNETT JR. AND BRADFORD. WARM REGARDS, CAROL & LIONEL GREENBAUM

lionel greenbaum - PALM BEACH, FL - FRIEND - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

WE

“ My prayers are with all of the Cotten family . I worked for Dr.Cotten for 3 years at Southwest Ga Orthopedics & Sports Medicine. He was great person to work for .He was good to me and my family . Fond memories of a good man.
Many laughs with this guy. God Bless the family . Wendy Barbosa

Wendy Barbosa - Texarkana, TX - former employee - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Dr. Cotten was a great doctor and friend. My husband and son were both patients for 20 years. Years ago he hunted in Bluffton with friends and would come by our house when he was in town sometimes. He will be missed by many people.

Kathy Collier - Bluffton, GA - patient & friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Praying for all of you! So sorry for your loss. What a great loss he will be! I cherish every office visit as he was more than a Dr, he was a friend. He was always so caring & full of concern. He even had a nickname for my wife as she was at every office visit with me after my farming accident that almost caused my life. He & his team met my wife at the door of the emergency room the night of my dreadful accident when the ambulance pulled up with me (we traveled from Cordele to Albany) & he was truly a God-sent to my wife (& to me!) as he was certainly the one God knew she needed at such a devastating time. I am in total shock but his legacy will live on even in other cities besides Albany, GA. May you cherish & hold on to all the great times you shared with him as I know my family will!!! Our love & prayers go to each of you during this difficult time.

Kevin & Lisa Stephens - Cordele, GA - friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Dr. Bennett Cotton was such a joy to work with, I know everyone that worked with him will agree that he always had such an entertaining and great caring fellow. I know that he will be greatly missed!! And to his family, I am so very sorry for your loss.

Steffanie Watson - Albany, GA - Co-Worker - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ I have so many wonderful memories of Bennett. I am so grateful for having known him. He was far too young to have gone.

Leigh Wetherbee Brooks - Albany, GA - Friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ I am so very sorry to hear of your loss. Prayers to you all!

Robin Toms Grier - cumming, GA - friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

IF

“ To the Family of Dr. Cotten our thoughts and prayers are with you.

The best way to honor someone who is not with us anymore is to continue living our life and to keep their memory alive through everyday events. Dr. Cotten would have wanted that and expected nothing less from all of his family, friends, patients and co-workers.

Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal.

Irene Simpson and Holli Reksten

Irene Simpson - Albany, GA - Patient and friends - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ a great man and I always loved seeing that smile on his face !

David Holley - leesburg, GA - patient - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ To the family of Dr Cotton, I am so sorry for your loss. I was a patient of Dr Cotton for over 20 years and truly respected him and he will be missed so much. My prayers and thoughts are with all of you.

Kathy Thompson - Sylvester, GA - patient - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ May your family find comfort in the Lord and peace in knowing that Dr.Cotten was admired and well respected. A ray of sunshine to those of us blessed by his presence.Thanks for Many ,many years of taking care of my mothers pain and making her smile.You will be missed dearly.

Cecelia Bush & Mary Snyder - Albany, GA - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Dr. Cotton was a joy to work with. He was always happy and joking around with the staff. He would put the O.R. room at ease. He treated the nurses and staff with respect. I am sure PPMH will be a little quieter and less brighter without his presence although I am sure he will NEVER be forgotten. I met Dr Cotton in 1992 when I first started as a travel nurse and took a job assignment at PPMH. He was my favorite. REST IN PEACE DR COTTON!!

JULIE DANIELS R.N. - VALDOSTA, GA - FRIEND/NURSE - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ PRAYING FOR YOUR FAMILY DURING THIS TIME

Anita York Mullis - Smithville, GA - FRIEND - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ To The Family of Dr. Cotton, I am Really So Sorry For Your Loss. My Heart Was Broken When My Husband David Came And Told Me The News. He Was My Doctor For Over 20 Years .Dr.Cotten Was The Best Doctor I Ever Had, He Done My Knee Surgery And My Arm And My Hand Surgery. When I Needed Surgery I Would Wait Till Dr.Cotten Came In. I Waited For 2 Weeks For Him To Come Back From Vacation To Do My Surgery. I Only Trusted Dr.Cotten. He Will Be Miss By Everyone That Knew Him. Me And My Family Are Going To Be Loss Without Him. I Still Cant Believe It . Dr. Cotten Has Done A lot For Me. It Was Great knowing Him, RIP DR. COTTEN. Teresa And David Holley

TERESA HOLLEY AND DAVID HOLLEY - leesburg - patient and friends -
September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ A true gentleman and a generous spirit. Though he had much to be proud of, he was not prideful. Thank you Lord for sharing Dr. Cotten with us. Though it was not long enough in our hearts, we can take comfort that he is with you now.

Dennis Wiemer - Leesburg, GA - Friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Dr. Cotton you will be forever in our hearts. Thank you for being such a wonderful doctor and friend. You really showed the nurses at Palmyra how much you loved them. This is not goodbye. See ya real soon :-)

Leigh Swords - Albany , GA - Coworker - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ Dr. Cotten I thank you for all you did for me as a patient over the years and as friend. You always had a smile and a funny story to tell. You practiced that old school medicine by treating every patient like they where family. you will be missed but your works and friendships with live forever. To the Cotten family my thoughts and prayers are with you. Amen

Dennis Dyson - Easley, SC - Friend and Patient - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ I grew up at First Methodist with Bennett and later had the boys in my Sunday school class. I also worked in the lab at Palmyra and he always had a big smile for everyone. He will be greatly missed.

mary beth christian williamson - snohomish, WA - friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ So sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with you all at this time.

Jeff & Tammy Lawhorn - Warwick - Friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DO

“ To the Cotten Family,

*I am so sorry for your loss. It was a sad day when we heard of his illness. It became even a sadder day to have learned he is gone, but never forgotten. Dr. Cotten was truly a wonderful doctor, terrific person, and a delight to work for at Premier Orthopedics. Though I was allowed only 4 years to work with him, I must say it was an honor and a dream come true to be able to work with him. I will miss him. My prayers are with you as you go through this difficult time.
Love Donna Williams*

Donna Williams - Albany, GA - Staff at Premier Orthopedics - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ *Lots of years of memories of the kids running up and down the alley. My girls always love Dr. Bennett ! Lots of fun and laughs and jokes. We will miss him and treasure our memories. The Hugheys.*

Sharon Hughey - Albany, GA - Friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AD

“ *He was my mother's doctor - her name was Helen Belisle. She passed away two years ago. She had hip surgery and did great. He was so good to her. I am so sorry - he was such a good doctor and so good with his patients.*

Ann Brackin - Blakely, GA - Patient's daughter - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TE

“ I worked for Dr. Cotten when I was in school years ago. He was a man of amazing intelligence but never took himself too seriously, or anyone else for that matter. He would always take time to say hello and catch up before joking on me in some way. He will be missed, never forgotten

Todd Williams - Juliette, GA - Friend/previous employee - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SN

“ Thoughts & prayers are with y'all. I will really miss Dr Cotten as a friend & at work.

Susie Potter - Preston, GA - Orthopedic RN at Phoebe North - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Dr Cotten, you are in better Hands now. Gonna miss seeing Dr Cotten. Took care of me and my family for 28 years. My thoughts and prayers are with his Wife and Sons. God Bless you all.

Susan Jackson - Camilla, GA - Friend/Patient - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Mary Linda and family...We are so sad to hear the news of your husband's passing...We loved hearing his testimony at our church a few years ago and will never forget him...He also gave me advise on my knees and was so kind to me while I went through 5 years of Knee Surgery....Will always remember Dr. Bennett Cotten...forever!!!!

Danny & Charlean Moss

Danny & Charlean Moss - Albany, GA - Friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ I met Dr. Cotten when he did surgery on my husband. He came out to the waiting room with a firm hand shake and smile to tell me that my husband was ok and I could see him soon. I was engulfed in my studies and he asked what I was looking over. I told him I was studying for my nursing boards. He said good. We need good nurses. Hang in there. Who knew I would be one of his nurses? What an honor! He was wonderful and will be truly missed.

Regina Barnes, RN - Albany, GA - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of the family, friends, and patients of Dr. Cotten. He was a fine man and will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Our family depended on him for our orthopedic needs since he returned to Albany. We trusted him completely. Rest in Peace, Dr. Cotten. Your work here is done.

The Monzie Family (Joe, Cheryl, and Michele Monzie Cobb

Cheryl Monzie - Dawson, GA - patient/friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ Mary Linda, we are so saddened to hear the passing of Dr. Cotton. He will surely will be missed. You & your family are in our prayers.
God Bless
Robert & Tracie Butler

Tracie - Bellevue, NE - Friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Hearrbroken about Bennett. He took great care of my parents and of me. He was a wonderful doctor. I will miss him.

Lee Lee Brown - Albany - Friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ *What a truly wonderful man. Love and prayers too Mary Linda and family.*

Sandra Stieb Klos - Albany, GA - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ *Mary Linda and family. We offer our sincere sympathies.*

Jean and Bill - Albany, GA - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ *Our thoughts are with you Mary Linda & family. Bennett was a good man and great doctor. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers. Love and blessings. Mike, Ruthie and Stephen Garner*

Mike, Ruthie & Stephen Garner - Albany, GA - Friend - September 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ *I always appreciated Dr. Cotten's expertise, his attention to detail and the meticulous way he performed my foot surgery and how he aided in my recovery. Hearing his testimony years later, thrilled my heart. Developing a relationship with his help-meet, Mary Linda, was an unexpected pleasure to my life as she sold our home and assisted us with the purchase of another in such a way that made me forever thankful. What a blessing these two have been to me and my family. My prayers and support to Mary Linda and the boys -*

Soraya Miller

Soraya Miller - Albany, GA - friend - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ *This is such sad news. Please know that my prayers and thoughts are with the Cotton family.*

Love, Leslie

Leslie Wright Samford - Duluth, GA - Friend - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ *We love you Dr. COTTEN....may you rest in peace with our Lord.*

Andria and Ricky Milner - Albany, GA - Friend - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ *Dr. Cotten was not only a wonderful doctor but a great friend. He spent lots of time operating on me and my family for years. We truly adored the man he was. He loved to speak of his family and he was always concerned about his patients and their families. He will be missed by so many for all the wonderful things he was. Rest in peace Dr. Cotten.*

The Harris Family

Jamie Harris Gresham - patmos, GA - a patient and friend - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ *I grew up in Sunday School with Bennett. I worked on the Ortho floor for 5 years, at PPMH. He was always jolly and was always nice to me! I will miss him!!!!*

Harriet Bragg Tate - Albany, GA - friend - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ I broke my ankle Easter Sunday, he did my surgery he was so nice and friendly my daughter and I absolutely fell in love with him he talked about his family everytime I saw him, he will surely be missed
V

betty mclemore - albany - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

VP

“ I want to extend my sympathy to Dr. Cotten's family. He was a wonderful doctor and will be missed!

Virginia Carder - Lees burg, GA - Patient - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ I am the mother of one of Dr. Cotten's patients and friend. My daughter, Dakota Nunn was his patient since she was 8 years old. She is 20 now. He did surgery on her left arm 3 times over the years. She had hemangiomas. We trusted him and loved him. We dd get to see him earlier this year. Dakota had a hidden cyst and he found it and lanced it. He would always want my daughter to bring her flute to play for him. He cared about her life and health. He will be truly missed. My daughter knew he cared and trusted him. He made her surgery s so much easier. RIP Dr. Cotten. The family are in our prayers.

Barbara McMillan - Meigs, GA - Mother of a patient - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ To the family of Dr. Cotten
I will truly miss him but I know that GOD plans are not our plans but his healing is physical or eternal . Thank GOD that you are not in no more pain even though you will be missed I can imagine you in heaven now preaching that Sermon you told me that you would preach at my Church I know that the Angels welcomed you home today and we lost a faithful servant . You will truly be missed in my heart.

Cheryl Daniels - Albany, GA - 3 west employee - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

3C

“ Our hearts are saddened because today we lost a very dear friend and Doctor we will miss your good sense of humor and smile along with your dancing and presence. We know that GOD healed you and wrapped you in his loving arms and said well done thy good and faithful servant. Your spirit will remain in our hospital and in our hearts.

3 WEST NURSES - Albany, GA - co-workers - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ A good man.

Carol - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ O my dear precious friend. I will always remember when Lawrence got his little fingers cut off and you took over being the doctor you were. You were my HERO! Lawrence is now a nurse anesthetist and I hear he works wonders with his hands and fingers. You are a God sent. May you rest in peace. We will always be grateful to you.

DeLora Rogers - Panama City, FL - class mate and friend - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ To the Family of Dr. Cotten,
I am so sorry for your loss. He was a wonderful person.

He was my Doctor/Friend for 30years. I will miss him.

*Look back on the good times you shared with him, these memories
will help you through.*

*Blessings to all,
Brenda Wintersole*

Brenda Wintersole - Albany, GA - Friend/Patient - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ We extend our prayers and deepest sympathy to you. Bennett was
inspirational to so many...a true man of God.

Carol and Felix - Leesburg, GA - friend - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ I'm so glad I was able to see you and say goodbye. You're in a
better place now.

You will be missed by so many.

See you later old friend.

Buddy

Buddy Allen - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

WF

“*Mary Linda, Dixon & Bradford -
Our hearts are broken. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.
He is going to be greatly missed. We look forward to that great
union with him & all of our loved ones.
"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will
guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:7*

*John & Wendy Holloway,
Leesburg, Ga.*

Wendy Holloway - Albany, GA - Friend - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM