



## Dr. W. Joe Martin

April 28, 2020

W. Joe Martin, MD passed away peacefully at home on April 28, 2020. He was born on December 20, 1927 in Poplar Bluff, MO to Lilian Shadle Martin and Bert August Martin. Joe graduated high school in 1945 from Fredericktown, MO. Before graduating he entered Westminster College in Fulton, MO. After 18 months he joined the Navy for two years. Dr. Joe returned to graduate from Westminster in 1950 and St. Louis University School of Medicine in 1954.

On June 7, 1952 Joe married the true love of his life, Janet Rae Swacker in St. Louis. After completing a surgical residency at City Hospital in St. Louis, they moved to Louisiana in 1956 joining Dr. John Middleton in a partnership that would last over 30 years. Their practice would later take on more partners, eventually becoming the Pike Medical Clinic. Dr. Joe retired in 1990.

Joe was preceded in death by his parents, Janet's parents, his brother, Willis (Bill) Bert Martin and wife Hope, and his son, W. Joe Martin, Jr.

He is survived by his wife of almost 68 years, their children, Julie (Gary James), Peter, Bill and Judd, 17 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, and many loving nieces and nephews. Joe put his heart and soul into his community of Louisiana and Pike County, but most especially, his wife and family.

Arrangements will be made at a later date.

# Comments

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“ Dr. Joe such a GENTLE MAN  
SO KIND WAS A FIGHTER...  
A Little stubborn but insisted he could do everything himself... Climb steps too.  
He Cherished Janet never wanted her out of sight...right up to the end. God was  
ready for him. Do not tell God when  
You are ready. Angels came to lift him up! He is preparing a place for us all. NEVER  
GIVE UP! One funny comment...  
He wanted to see Bob Seger  
concert. I brought him a T-shirt and I hope he wore it at least one time. I would have  
given him my ticket. NO KIDDING. ALSO JANET GOT A WARM, FUZZY THROW  
JUST FOR HER. I believe she covered him in it too. I hope she knows how much I  
cherish  
that memory. They WILL BE  
Side by side when it is GOD'S  
DECISION.... HANG ON MRS.  
JANET MARTIN!!!! NEVER THROW IN THE TOWEL...  
GAME IS NOT OVER... SIT ON THE BENCH...BE A STRONG WONDERFUL  
WOMAN...  
DR. JOE IS WATCHING THE WHOLE FAMILY AND KIND PEOPLE WHO .....  
RESPECT AND REGARDS

Linda Kay Henry Speight

Linda Henry Speight - July 28, 2020 at 11:18 AM

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“ The kind, sensitive, sweet soul of Dr. W. Joe Martin will be missed by so many.

Mary Shadle Currie, M.ED, now 101 1/4 years of age, was Joe's beloved "Aunt Mary". Her children, David M. Currie, Ph.D. and Victoria Currie Taylor, are submitting the following on her behalf, and our own.

Mary was 9 when Joe was born. She speaks of changing his diapers, carrying him on her hip everywhere and adoring him all his life. They had a special relationship. When showing Mom his practice in Louisiana, he introduced her as an anesthesiologist; which shocked her since she was a teacher.

Joe and Janet came annually in later years to visit his Aunt Mary and Aunt Carolyn (Mom's sister), who lived together for 28 years in Orlando, Florida. It was an annual highlight, especially when Joe's Uncle, Dr. Oscar W. Shadle (Mary and Carolyn's brother) and wife, Daisy, would join from California.

Yes, Joe was a treasure to our side of the family. In fact, our younger brother, the late C. Michael "Timer" Currie, M.D., spent a sizable amount of time with Joe and Janet while attending the same medical school as Joe had. He even used Joe's large family and that beautiful home at 1805 Georgia Street as a prototype for his future family and home.

We all loved Joe, Janet, and their children and shared many great times together. We will miss him and remember him always.

Mary Shadle Currie and Family

Victoria Currie Taylor - May 14, 2020 at 04:48 PM

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“ Otto Maly sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. W. Joe Martin



Otto Maly - May 14, 2020 at 08:30 AM

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“ My warmest thoughts and sympathies to the whole family.



**Bruce Griffith** - May 10, 2020 at 09:04 PM

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“ I remember Dr. Martin primarily from the golf course because my dad was the groundskeeper for many years. Dr. Martin delivered me when I was born in 1964. My sympathy to his family.

**Carletta Sutton** - May 06, 2020 at 04:00 PM

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“ I will always remember my cousin as a big brother teasing me laughing and just being a wonderful person. Soft spoken, lovable, caring and a beautiful person was my cousin Joe. Rest in peace.

**Clare Evelyn Shadle Sims** - May 05, 2020 at 04:06 PM

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“ I have many wonderful memories of my association with Dr. Joe and the Pike Medical Clinic. He was a remarkable person in many ways. My most sincere condolences to Janet and the family. Glenn Miles

**Glenn Miles** - May 02, 2020 at 11:38 AM

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“ God bless Dr. Martin and be with his family.

**Barbara G Duffee** - May 02, 2020 at 10:23 AM

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“ Thank you to Dr. Martin's family for sharing him with us. I had to have emergency surgery as a young child and he was so gentle and caring when he explained what would happen that I know I had no reason to be afraid. I treasure him to this day.  
Debbie Wilson

Debbie Wilson - May 02, 2020 at 12:47 AM

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“ What a nice man. He will be missed by the community. My mom often spoke of him...how kind he was to her. My sincere condolences.

Kay Shive Black - May 01, 2020 at 09:32 PM

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“ Dr Martin was amazing! I had him as a surgeon when I had my youngest and he was absolutely wonderful. The answers he gave me when I asked him questions have stuck with me for the last 38 yrs. Our sympathy and prayers for his family.

Zenda Luebrecht - May 01, 2020 at 09:00 PM

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“ To the family of Dr. Martin, I am so sorry for the loss of your husband and father. I can still remember when he came into the OB Department to check on his C-Section patients. He was mild spoken and kind and he always such a sweet smile. May God be with each of you each of you now and always.

Gail Branstetter - May 01, 2020 at 07:16 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to the family...I am forever grateful to Dr. Martin for saving my life 53 years ago...Wonderful Doctor...

Linda Koester - May 01, 2020 at 08:30 PM

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“ So very sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you.

Ginny Wood

Ginny Wood - May 01, 2020 at 05:26 PM

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“ My sincere sympathy to Dr. Joe Martin 's family



**Ron and Rita Auwarter** - May 01, 2020 at 03:09 PM

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“ CHERYL lit a candle in memory of Dr. W. Joe Martin



**CHERYL** - May 01, 2020 at 03:05 PM

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“ Thought a lot of Dr.Joe as my Family knew him. He took care of my Family and my Mom's Family.

**Andrew H Graham Jr** - May 01, 2020 at 01:49 PM



“ Sorry, Janet & family. I worked in OB with Judy Harvey & Paulette Powelson and occasionally had a patient (C-section) with Dr. Joe. He was always kind to the pts. and I respected him highly. Will be praying for you all in your loss of your dear one.

**Eleanore Warner RN** - May 01, 2020 at 02:16 PM



“ Janet and family, our deepest sympathy at the passing of your dear husband and father---- Physician to many in Pike Co and surrounding area for many years. For us who did OB with him, he was kind to our patients and soft spoken. Eleanore and Ellen's comments are echoed by me. I have many fond memories of those days here at PCMH. Wishing you peace and comfort, Paulette Powelson RN

**Paulette Powelson** - May 01, 2020 at 02:51 PM

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“ Bronson Family lit a candle in memory of Dr. W. Joe Martin



**Bronson Family** - May 01, 2020 at 12:46 PM

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“ Beth Ambra lit a candle in memory of Dr. W. Joe Martin



**Beth Ambra** - May 01, 2020 at 11:13 AM

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“ Many years ago in the ER I assisted as Dr. Martin sutured the forehead laceration of a young woman. My respect for his abilities soared that day. He was infinitely patient and so meticulous. His humor was wonderful although it took a little time for some of us to get in step. I'm so very sorry for your loss, for the loss of all of us.

**Marjorie Jamieson** - May 01, 2020 at 10:14 AM



“ Sorry for your loss. Having worked with him at PCMH for many years he was a good and caring doctor. Two things I remember him always saying are he always referred to his wife as “as my bride” and when people would ask which doctor he was he would always say “I'm the good looking one”.

**Ellen Dillender** - May 01, 2020 at 01:28 PM

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“ Elenora Lobb lit a candle in memory of Dr. W. Joe Martin



**Elenora Lobb** - May 01, 2020 at 08:29 AM

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“ Thom Sanders lit a candle in memory of Dr. W. Joe Martin



**Thom Sanders** - April 30, 2020 at 03:25 PM

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“ Lisa Watts lit a candle in memory of Dr. W. Joe Martin



**Lisa Watts** - April 30, 2020 at 03:02 PM