



Dr. Jose M. Arcila

October 31, 1924 - May 6, 2018

Jose M. Arcila, M.D., 93, died peacefully in his sleep at 5:22 a.m on Sunday, May 6, 2018 at his home in Petersburg, IL. Dr. Arcila was born on October 31, 1924 in Colombia, South America. He graduated from the prestigious National University of Colombia in 1946 with a degree in medicine. For his doctoral thesis, he developed an innovative surgical technique for patients with esophageal cancer. It is a technique that is still used in surgery today. He practiced general medicine, with a specialty in surgery, for 21 years in Bogota, Colombia. In 1967, he emigrated to the United States after being accepted to a medical training program at the Cook County Hospital in Chicago, IL. Upon completion, he moved to central Illinois to establish his practice in medicine. In the early 1970's, he served as a surgical assistant to the famed cardiothoracic surgeon, Dr. Harp, at St. John's Hospital in Springfield, IL. Over the years, Dr. Arcila worked in several hospitals and private medical practices in Virden, IL, Havana, IL, Decatur, IL, and Chester, IL. He had a long and prosperous career until he finally retired from medicine in his 80's.

Dr. Arcila was a classy and charming man who had many talents. He was a devoted and loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather to his large family. He loved to read, draw, and paint, and he played the guitar, organ, and accordion. He was an avid boater who loved to spend weekends on his houseboat on the lake. He enjoyed playing tennis, baseball, and soccer. He was a die-hard Cubs fan, and he enjoyed watching University of

Illinois football and basketball.

Dr. Arcila is preceded in death by his wife of 27 years, Clemence Arcila. He is survived by his children: Maria Arcila Duncan (Erick) of Charlotte, N.C., Vicki Bonnett (Jeff) of Havana, IL, Linda Weimer (Stan) of Manito, IL, and Roger Seifert (Julie) of Petersburg, IL. He is also survived by grandchildren: Andrew and Gabriela Duncan of Charlotte, NC, Melissa (Jerry) Schreck of Normal, IL; Bret Unruh of Havana, IL, Jon Unruh of Havana, IL, Katherine (Kyle) Davenport of Pekin, IL, Margaret Weimer of Champaign, IL, Samuel Weimer of Manito, IL, Ryan Seifert (Jennifer) of Athens, IL, and Brandi (Andrew Goering) Seifert of Maroa, IL, 8 great-grandchildren, as well as several nieces, nephews and cousins.

In accordance with Jose's wishes cremation rites were accorded by Hurley Funeral Home in Petersburg. A memorial gathering will be held at the funeral home on Saturday, May 12 from 2-4 pm with a graveside service at Rosehill Cemetery in Petersburg immediately following the memorial gathering.

Those who wish may leave memorials in Dr. Arcila's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Please visit Dr. Arcila's online obituary at www.hurleyfh.com
Hurley Funeral Home in Petersburg, IL is assisting the family with arrangements

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAY 12. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Hurley Funeral Home - Petersburg
122 West Douglas Avenue
Petersburg, IL 62675
(217) 632-2500
<https://www.hurleyfh.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Jose M. Arcila*

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *He was my "tío" Chepe that brought me into the world in Bogotá, Colombia in 1962. I'm the daughter of his little brother Alvaro and haven't seen my uncle since 1965. I have spoken on the phone with him and is in contact with my cousin Maria Arcila Duncan through Facebook. Lots of love from me in Sweden to all other family members / Maria Engström, Halmstad, Sweden.*

Maria Engström - May 13, 2018 at 04:55 AM



“ *I was a patient of Dr Arcila from about the age of 5-10 at the Mound Road Clinic in Decatur. I have so many fond memories. He always called me "His pretty little Sara". As a child I thought all Dr's were this charming! I saw him on almost a monthly basis, and I have never forgotten him. What an amazing life he led! He was a wonderful physician and I hope his family knows how much we appreciated his care. Many prayers to his friends and family.*

Sara Wagner Hoffman - May 12, 2018 at 11:19 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Jose's passing. I was not only fortunate, but also blessed to call him my father-in-law, if only for a part of my life. I spent a lot of wonderful times with him over many great bottles of wine. He was a great man.*

Tony Unruh - May 12, 2018 at 09:06 AM

SS

“ *My sympathy to all of you. He was such a loving and special person to so many. May God comfort you in the days ahead. Shirley, Pam and Michael Springer*

Shirley Springer - May 08, 2018 at 02:13 PM

DL

“ *I worked at MDH with Dr. Arcila and he was always smiling and happy. He would always come to the office and want me to get into the pink ladies closet and get him a candy bar, which he always left more than enough on the shelf for it. And he always made a funny comment about how to eat that candy bar. These are fond memories I will always have. Bless you through this time and my prayers are with his family. His obituary is a lovely tribute to Dr. Jose Arcile...AGE 93!! A wonderful, caring person and doctor.*

Diana Shoemaker Lind - May 08, 2018 at 08:46 AM

VL

“ *Vickie Pace Lickiss lit a candle in memory of Dr. Jose M. Arcila*



Vickie Pace Lickiss - May 08, 2018 at 08:29 AM

LT

“ *Sincere Sympathies to the family!*



Lisa Jill Thompson - May 07, 2018 at 11:24 PM

DW

“ *Sorry for your loss Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Jose was a wonderful man He will be missed*



Dan and Chris Wilson - May 07, 2018 at 09:38 PM

TU

“ *Traci Unruh lit a candle in memory of Dr. Jose M. Arcila*



Traci Unruh - May 07, 2018 at 07:05 PM

RB

“ *Jose was such a charmer. He was smart and interesting to talk to. His love of his boats could keep him talking for hours. He loved his family and he loved his caregivers. I was with him 6 years and he brought a lot of joy to my heart. He loved the kisses we gave him everyday. I will miss him a lot, he will always hold a special place in my heart. He was someone special to know. Rest In Peace buddy, you deserve it.*

Rita Brust - May 07, 2018 at 04:20 PM