



Dr. Micheal C. Pistole

AUG 16, 1947 - SEP 29, 2017



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Dr. Micheal C. Pistole

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Dr. Micheal C Pistole died unexpectedly as a result of complications from pneumonia, on September 26. He is survived by his beloved husband of 33 years, Richard Bradshaw, his sisters Victoria Plummer and Carolyn Durham, and his stepsons Christopher Bradshaw and Matthew Bradshaw.

Dr. Pistole was born in San Gabriel California on August 16th, 1947. He attended medical school at the University of Maryland where he trained as an Internist, and further specialized in Gastroenterology, but his medical career extended beyond his specialties, working tirelessly with HIV/AIDS patients since the disease first made its appearance.

He was a renowned Hepatologist, and a frequently requested lecturer on the topic of Hepatitis C. Dr. Pistole pioneered treatments for HIV that positively impacted thousands of patients he treated over his 35 years of medical practice and prolonged the lives of innumerable patients under his care.

In addition to his medical practice, Dr. Pistole served with distinction on the Board of Directors of MedStar Washington Hospital Center from 2004 to 2015, receiving numerous recognitions while serving in various capacities. Outside of work, Dr. Pistole's talents were many. He had a passion for photography, providing memories of his meticulously organized world travels to share with friends and family upon his return.

He was a seasoned fisherman who enjoyed scuba diving as well as an avid gardener, creating an oasis for visitor in the acres surrounding the home he shared with Richard. He was a prolific writer, a poet, and a teacher of life, love, compassion and integrity. He will be truly missed.

Dr. Pistole was also a magnificent chef whose mouthwatering creations were such that that one could remember them by taste for years. Dr. Pistole interacted without prejudice, immediately accepting anyone with whom he interacted, bringing laughter and smiles to those who he encountered.



Obituary

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Those who knew Dr. Pistole know how privileged they are to have known him. Memorial Services will be planned for the spring, his favorite season of the gardening year, in order to allow friends and family to bask in the beautiful gardens he created with his husband Richard. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to Unity Health Care.



Tribute Wall

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Remy David posted:

After starting with Dr. Bernard Branson in Baltimore, for a few years. The AIDS epidemic, was still raging. And Bernie Branson, picked up a research position, with the CDC in Atlanta. And would be closing his practice in Baltimore. Because I lived,, in the Washington DC Metro area. I was recommended to and I had my first appointment with, Dr. Micheal Pistole. Around 1990. Dr. Bernie Branson was lovely. Dr. Micheal Pistole, Was was, truly special. What a lovely bedside manner. He was not just my doctor. He felt like my friend also. Though we did not socialize together outside, the medical office. I always wanted to. I think he knew how much I loved him. He was my, personal medical doctor, Internist for, 25 years. I remember he had a couple of, terrible episodes with, Hernias. That nearly killed him, a couple of times over. I went to see,, Micheal Pistole', before I left Washington DC for Austin,, Texas, 12 years ago. And I hadn't been keeping up with him as I knew, he had retired from his, practice. I had no idea he had passed on? And so many years ago now? I feel just horrible. I so wanted him to have, a wonderful beautiful, happy, love filled, retirement. Now I find out. He hardly had a chance. It's not fair God dammit. What a fabulous, giving, loving, life servant. To ensure, that we all enjoy our retirement. I am so terribly saddened. My condolences to his life partner. He told me how much he loved you. How much you meant to him. As he knew my husband I lost after 22 years in, October 2014. And the reason why I left Washington DC. There's no place I could go without bursting into tears. Remembering the fabulous times we had together there. We did and accomplished so much together. It's so painful.. To be around all that reminds me of our happy loving time together. For 22 years. While I knew and fell in love with, Micheal Pistole'. I'm certain like many of his patient's have. Who couldn't? Who wouldn't? What a wonderful caregiver and friend of a lifetime. I'm so sorry you are no longer with us Micheal Pistole'. God Speed to you and I will see you on the other side... With my late husband, KITT. STAY AWAY FROM MY HUSBAND!!! will miss you and love you forever, Miccheal Pistole'. And you made my, Colonoscopy. So much better. You're the only man I ever let do that to me. He was so gentle. He had that magic touch. Now I have to enjoy my, pauper, flat broke retirement. For both my husband Kitt and Micheal Pistole'. Since neither of them, ever got the chance to. Of wherever I can afford to drive to and my, 24-year-old, White Trash Luxury Diesel Pusher Motorhome. On my measly monthly, Social Security, retirement benefits. Because that's all that's been left for me. Now I'm just an, Old Woman, that live in a Shoe. Known as a Motorhome in the 21st Century. And she is my Diesel Pusher I have fondly named... Monaco Lewinsky. With her I'm always, Cummins. As she is quite Turbo Charged. I'm so sorry you are gone Micheal Pistole'. You knew you were the other man in my life.

January 18 at 10:32 PM



Tribute Wall

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BW

Bwo posted:

Thought of the doctor today. I am so sorry for those who miss him. Count me now among the many.

September 30 at 5:54 AM

BW

Bill Wentz August 21 at 7:47 AM

Michael, I never got another chance to say I love you and Richard. Thanks for being so kind and human. I wished you could have stayed longer.

RE

Ryan Eubanks posted:

Micheal was so kind to me years ago. He was always welcoming to me and I really enjoyed chatting with him. I learned quite a few things from him in our chats and am saddened that he has past. I haven't been in touch in years but after learning of his passing feel compelled to leave respect and condolences. Deepest sympathies to Richard. Ryan Eubanks

June 22 at 7:42 PM

ZC

Zetta M Leftridge, Pharm D. Clinical Coo posted:

May God continue to bless the family. Dr Pistole was such a wonderful person. I often think of how brilliant he was as a practioner and how passionate and loving he was as a person. He was truly a trail Blazer in he treatment of hIV in the early '90 s. I often think of how his love for people and food knew no boundaries. He was so engaging whenever I met with him on the units. A wonderful hostess. He once invited the members of the nursing unit to his beautiful home for lunch. He and Richard were such a great host. I will always remember Dr. P and how he loved and respected everyone. Such a brilliant man. May he rest in peace. Love, Zetta Leftridge, PharmD.

October 25 at 12:09 AM

PY

Pier Young posted:

I used to work for him as a receptionist at his office on F st nw and it was the best experience of my life he taught me so much and inspired me to futher my education and I did graduated at the top of my class and could not be thankful to have worked with such and awesome and caring man Rest In Peace and you are truly missed

March 26 at 4:59 AM



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PY

Pier Young sent a virtual gift in honor of Micheal.



March 26 at 4:54 AM

RL

Rick Lesaar posted:

If the memorial service is open to the public, please let me know when and where. I was a patient of Dr. Pistole and would like to honor him with my presence. rlesaar@mac.com

February 25 at 2:02 PM

AL

Allan John Lefever posted:

I was vary saddened to hear of Michael's passing away, He was truly the best doctor I ever had, he took excellent care myself and several other friends. We ended up becoming friends when we discovered that he and Richard had bought a house in W Va. directly above ours around 1984.I sought out a Doctor who was on the cutting edge of Aids treatment in the spring of 1983 when I thought that I was infected with the virus and even though it turned out that I was not infected his excellent care and reassuring attitude probably saved my life during this most difficult time in my life.I would really like to share in a memorial event with Richard and others, please feel free to get in touch with me.John LefeverEmail combo52@mac.comCP 240-304-8471

January 31 at 4:14 AM

RV

Roger Vale posted:

Have been upset at finding out that my doctor and friend Michael has passed away. he was my doctor for many many years since i moved to Washington DC. He was much more than just a doctor he was a friend as well. He was exceptional in his treatment of a patient and would then spend time talking to you about all sorts if things. Very much missed Michael and my condolence to Richard and family from Roger.

December 10 at 7:41 PM

BP

Brian Purdy posted:

So saddened to have found out that Dr Pistole has passed. He was my Doctor and friend of 30 years. Sadly missed but many happy memories of Michael as we could talk forever when visiting. Grateful to him for having been my Doctor for so many years.

December 10 at 7:08 PM



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DS

Dee Stoehr posted:

"Mikey" and I became great ER buddies the moment his joined WHC. Became neighbors when he moved the the beautiful South River home. The years have flown by but I still giggle about the fun times of our younger days. Dee Stoehr, R.N.

November 9 at 11:08 AM

AH

Alice Hopkins posted:

Richard - so surprised to hear of Michael's passing. Sorry for you loss.You are in my thoughts and prayers. Your neighbor from Cheverly, Alice Hopkins

November 5 at 3:57 PM

DH

Doris Haney posted:

I am in TOTAL SHOCK, to know that the BEST doctor EVER has passed one. Dr. P was GENUINE, NICE FUNNY. When it was time for my UPPER GI, he would make it so comfortable for me with his SENSE OF HUMOR. I can't express just how much I am going to MISS this BEAUTIFUL HUMAN BEING that GOD brought into our lives. There will NEVER BE another doctor that can take his place. FLY HIGH IN THE SKY WITH THE ANGELS DR.P.With a BROKEN HEART,Doris Haney and family

November 3 at 10:52 AM

BW

Bob Wissman posted:

I was so saddened to learn of Dr. P's untimely passing. Micheal was my doctor for over 30 years. I used to dread going to the doctor's, but not with Micheal. I would actually look forward to seeing him because he was not only my doctor, but a true friend as well. I will miss him dearly, especially his fantastic kindness and sense of humor. May he rest in peace.I remember having to call him once on Thanksgiving Day for some medical advice. I hated to call him at home, especially on a holiday, but it was a bit of an emergency. He was so gracious and not put out at all. And his medical advice was spot on, saving me a trip to urgent care.I would greatly appreciate being advised of the memorial service when it is scheduled. My address is bob.wissman@gmail.comMy thoughts and prayers are with his family in this difficult time.With my condolences,Bob Wissman

October 19 at 12:13 PM



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Yvette B.Guilbert posted:

I just learned that Dr.P whom he was known at the Unity Clinic where I was a patient of his for 14 yrs .He was THE BEST very up and personal he made sure whatever you needed to get well he would go to and threw whatever he had to for your healing and recovery.Because of him I'm Hep C FREE I will always love and truly miss him.May he rest in Gods loving arms.With Deepest Condolences Yvette B. Guilbert

October 12 at 9:48 AM



Michele Aellen posted:

WHEN WE ARE CHILDREN THE TIME SEEMS TO PASS SO SLOWLY AND WE ARE ANXIOUS TO GROW UP WITH THE EXPECTATIONS OF EXPERIENCING THOSE THINGS RESERVED FOR ADULTS. AS WE GROW IT APPEARS THAT TIME PASSES QUICKLY....SOMETIMES TOO QUICKLY AND THERE IS NOT ENOUGH TO COMPLETE EVERYTHING WE DESIRE TO ACCOMPLISH. IN MICHAELS LIFE HE WAS ABLE TO DO MORE THAN MOST. THE POSITIVE IMPACT HIS LIFE HAD ON THOSE WITH WHOM HE HAD CONTACT IS NOT MEASURABLE BY ANY MEANS WE KNOW. MICHAEL WILL FOREVER LIVE IN THE MEMORIES OF ALL WHO HE TOUCHED FROM THE PATIENTS HE HELPED, TO THE INJUSTICES HE WORKED TO CORRECT AND MOSTLY IN THE HEART OF THE HUSBAND HE SHARED HIS LIFE WITH FOR SO MANY YEARS. YOU NEED ONLY TO BE IN THEIR COMPANY ONCE TO KNOW THAT HE LOVED RICHARD MORE THAN ANYTHING FROM HERE TO THE STARS AND THE MOON!! HIS LOVE WILL ALWAYS BE WITH YOU RICHARD. LOOK FOR HIM IN THE GARDEN HE LOVED SO....A CERTAIN SCENT, A BLOOMING PLANT....HE IS ALWAYS WITH YOU AND SOMEDAY YOU WILL BE REUNITED. OUR HEARTS BREAK FOR THE LOSS OF SUCH A WONDERFUL GENTLE KIND MAN AND FOR THE HUSBAND HE SHARED HIS JOURNEY WITH FOR SO MANY YEARS. HE WILL ALWAYS BE WITH YOU.LOVE, JOHN AND MICHELE AELLEN

October 6 at 6:22 AM



Del Terrill November 19 at 6:32 PM

I am very late and learning of Dr. Pistole's passing. Was just thinking of him and of my brother who was HIV positive in 1985 and who I took to Dr. Pascoli in 1987 as he was suffering from pneumocystis pneumonia. Via serialized pentamidine , Dr. Pistole gave me And my family another year to love my brother and to see him and be there with him as he gently passed When NIH allowed my brothers T helper count to get down to 12. Chuck was used as their guinea pig . Do I have anger For that, of course. But it was only Dr. Pisyole who seemed to care and attempt to find any way to fight Chuck's cause. Thank you, thank you, Dr. Pistole. So was very sad to read this obit. RIP good soul. Judge t Chuck's loving brother



Susan Darnold June 18 at 1:48 PM

Something triggered me to look him up...we were neighbors of his for a few years when he first moved to Cheverly in the late 70's. He was 2 years older so we would harass each other like siblings. If anyone was not feeling well in the immediate neighbors he would drop everything to check them out and make sure they were running ok again. He was a good neighbor and after reading everything it doesn't surprise me he became an outstanding doctor.



Susan Fortuna March 14 at 2:38 PM

I wondered where Michael was these days and looked him up and unfortunately found his obituary. He was a joy to work with. We looked forward to his visits to the ICU. He was our friend, our teacher and one of the best doctors I ever worked with. I still remember him after all theses years.Sue Fortuna



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MA

MG

Mark Grzebien November 24 at 7:53 AM

Dear Richard, My condolences. I was shocked when Rochelle Washington called me to let me know Michael had passed away. I talked to him last week from the hospital. He said he had pneumonia but he didn't sound that bad. I cannot find the words to express how I feel other than devastated. I know that pales by comparison to what you're going through. I was a patient of his for the last 30 years, from F street over to Parkside. Better put, his skill and compassion have kept me alive for 30 years I shouldn't have had. He was a hero to me and countless others. I remember fondly how he always called me "Baby".

SL

Sherleta Lowery October 11 at 2:47 AM

Boy o boy My Dr. when I've got the news over the phone from one of the nurses when I was making an appointment to see him I cried and cry I remember 9 years ago when he became a doctor he saw me sick at Washington Hospital Center and he said I'm going to get you back to where you supposed to be it hurts and he was just that type I used to say put them cigarettes down LOL he used to talk about his sisters how he tell me I'm not taking them on no more trips they do not know how to act LOL he told me about what he went to Paris he used to talk to me about his friend it was just lovable and I told my mom what I'm going to do without him so I had to bring myself back and do what he would want me to do Stay Well you're going to be truly missed dr. Pistole love you and miss you dearly Sherleta Lowery

LM

Lakishia Moncree October 10 at 5:51 PM

I haven't met Dr. Pistole personally, but I have spoken with him a few times on the phone and he was pleasant. I currently work at Unity and I've heard how his patients absolutely loved him. May God bless his family and friends and I pray for Him to comfort all of you during this difficult time.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Micheal by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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