



Stephen I. Goldware M.D.

May 24, 1940 - June 14, 2020

With a heavy heart, we say goodbye to Dr. Stephen I. Goldware who peacefully passed away on June 14, 2020. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend. For over 50 years, he served Acadiana with great care and compassion as a neurosurgeon. He was a pioneer in the field of Micro-neurosurgery. Throughout his career Dr. Goldware dedicated himself to learn the latest techniques in neurosurgery to better care for his patients.

Born in Omaha, Nebraska on May 24, 1940, he was the only child of Ben and Esther (Pollock) Goldware. When he was nine years old, his family moved to Dallas, Tx. He graduated from Hillcrest High School in 1957, Tulane University in 1961, and Tulane Medical School in 1965.

Dr. Goldware then did a mixed internship at Charity Hospital in New Orleans, La. His training in neurosurgery was delayed during the Vietnam War when he entered the United States Public Health Service (USPHS). During his time in the USPHS he served as the general surgeon at the U.S. Federal Penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pa. (1966-1967). He was then transferred to the USPHS Hospital in Baltimore, MD where he did a one-year general surgery residency (1967-1968). The following year he became a clinical associate in brain tumor chemotherapy at the National Cancer Institute in Baltimore, MD. His next assignment was as the ship's doctor for the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter, Hamilton in the North Atlantic.

In 1969, he began his residency in neurosurgery at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City. Upon completion of his residency in 1973, he moved to Lafayette, LA to begin his practice as a neurosurgeon.

In 1986, he proudly joined the U.S. Army Reserve, 904th Medical Detachment, where he trained neurosurgery residents at Walter Reed Hospital. In 1990 he was called to serve in Desert Storm as a Lt. Colonel with the 350th Evac Hospital in Saudi Arabia.

Dr. Goldware worked hard but played hard too. He was a man of many hobbies – hunting, fishing, skiing, and golfing, to name a few. He loved doing magic tricks for his young patients. A talented photographer and musician, he enjoyed sharing photos and playing his guitar with family and friends. He loved his dogs like his children and trained them to be retrievers.

He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, the former Maureen Levitan, daughter Lauren Goldware Heun, sons, Jeffrey Goldware (Laura), Donald Goldware (Michelle), grandchildren, Gregory Heun, Mallory Heun, Stephen Allen Goldware, Megan Goldware and Benjamin Goldware, and loving dog Tank.

Dr. Goldware was affiliated with the following organizations: American Association of Neurological Surgeons, Congress of Neurological Surgeons, Lafayette Parish Medical Society, Louisiana State Medical Society, American College of Surgeons, North American Spine Society, Southern Neurosurgical Society, New Orleans Neurosurgical Society, served on the boards of LAMMICO and Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, President Neurological Association of Louisiana, Fleet Surgeon for the New Orleans Big Game Fish Club, American Heart Association and Stroke Council, Director of Neuro-Science Center at Lafayette General Medical Center, and Temple Shalom.

His memory will forever be a blessing for all who knew and loved him. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date.

My brothers, Jeff Goldware, Don Goldware, our mother, Maureen Goldware and I would like to share our heartfelt thanks to everyone for the prayers, kind words and heartwarming stories shared on the passing of our beloved, Stephen Goldware. We will announce plans for a memorial service when Covid restrictions have eased, and we can safely gather to celebrate his life. The memorial will be announced in the local newspapers, on facebook, and on www.delhommefuneralhome.com.

In lieu of flowers please send memorials to: Tunnel to Towers Foundation <https://tunnel2towers.org/>, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital <https://www.stjude.org/> or the charity of your choice.

Personal condolences may be sent to the Goldware family at www.delhommefuneralhome.com.

Delhomme Funeral Home, 1011 Bertrand Drive, Lafayette, LA is in charge of funeral arrangements.

Comments



“ I am so sorry to hear of Dr. Goldware's death. He operated on me in 1975 and after a short recovery, I did not see him until he came through the gate at Oakbourne Country Club where I serve as a security officer. After 43 years he looked at me and said "I do not recall your last name but your first name is Jim and you are from New Iberia!" What a cracker jack mind. I always visited him and his lovely bride, Maureen at special dinners and other functions here at the club. I was always greeted warmly and felt special. I will never forget him and my back and I will always appreciate his fantastic skills as a surgeon, and I will maintain a warm spot in my heart for a wonderful gentleman.

Jim Wyche - June 26 at 09:23 AM



“ To Maureen and family:

My deepest sympathies to you on Steve's passing. As you may have heard Steve say, he was one of the main driving forces for my move to Lafayette in 2001. I have nothing but admiration and respect for his neurosurgical skills and knowledge, but even more so for his patient advocacy and devotion to his patients. His fund of knowledge was vast and went far beyond neurosurgery. One of the best compliments a neurosurgeon can receive is to say he was also a good neurologist and Steve was no exception. Steve showed his passion for the outdoors when he took me on my first duck hunt which I thoroughly enjoyed.

RIP Steve. You will be sorely missed!

Alan Appley, MD

Alan Appley, MD - June 24 at 07:12 PM



“ Y Latiolais is following this tribute.

Y Latiolais - June 21 at 01:59 PM



“ To a great doctor and gentlemen, I too have memories of this amazing doctor. Thanks again for repairing my neck! I always looked forward to my dr. appointments with Dr. Goldware. I always left his office with a smile. R.I.P. my dear friend.
Y. Latiolais



Y Latiolais - June 21 at 01:53 PM



“ I grew up here, but moved to Indiana in 1994. After giving birth to my second child, I was misdiagnosed with Bells Palsy. I went in for an MRI, and I was correctly diagnosed with a pituitary adenoma. I asked a nurse friend of mine who she would recommend to do surgery in Lafayette, and she told me to get Dr. Goldware. “He’s a god of brain surgery.” He did a fantastic job removing the tumor, and I’m so glad I had an opportunity to meet him.

Carol Hickey - June 19 at 07:52 PM



“ To Maureen, Lauren, Jeffrey, Donald and family,

Steve was an innovative, brilliant, compassionate, individual who loved his family. He pursued his work, and outside interests with extraordinary vigor. His presence will be missed on so many different fronts. I respected his sage advice and insights on numerous topics and valued his friendship (even far more than his rather tasty gourmet bottles of " Dr. Goldware's Hot sauce"... that I still possess ((-:).

Rest in peace my colleague and friend..

Patrick Herrington MD

Patrick Herrington MD - June 18 at 05:12 PM



“ Dr. Goldware was so well regarded in my family. He performed brain surgery on my mother in 1997 and was her only hope of recovery. It was very successful and my mother lived to be 88, had a full live, having passed away only a few years ago. Very similar set of circumstances with my father in law about 15 years ago and again very successful. My family cannot say enough good things about this man/surgeon. He had such a huge positive impact on so many here in Acadiana. My condolences to the family.

Bill Guidry



“ Dr. Goldware was a great physician, an excellent surgeon, and an even finer gentleman.

He helped mentor and train employees and EMTs at Acadian Ambulance for the last 35 years and was always willing to care for patients from however near or far when needed. When an ambulance brought a patient to Dr. Goldware, we knew they were getting the best medical care available!

As a friend I knew him as an humanitarian, an avid outdoorsman, and a devoted family man.

Thank you Dr. Goldware for taking such good care of us here in Acadiana. You will be missed!

Richard E. Zuschlag

Richard Zuschlag - June 18 at 11:47 AM



“ God called on me to read today's obituaries, which I normally do not do. And Lo! I find my most esteemed colleague, Steve, a man of burning intelligence and a superb physician and surgeon. His remarks were the stimulus for me and colleagues at the Romagosa Radiation Oncology Center to develop the first stereotactic radiosurgery facility in the state about 30 years ago.

We shared many patients, worked closely together in their care. I turned to him for counsel on family neurological problems that were not tumors.

I share the family's heavy heart and hope I may attend Steve's memorial service.

K. Thomas Noell, M.D.

KARL T NOELL - June 18 at 11:15 AM



“ Dr Goldware successfully performed back surgery on me in 1984. I was living in BR at the time and heard about him from a colleague at work.

He saw me the day after I called, admitted me that day, and operated the next. I have had no significant problems since. I am very grateful that I was able to be treated by him. RIP Dr Goldware.

Roger Peak - June 18 at 10:48 AM



“ Dear Mrs. Goldware and family, my prayers to all of you. Dr. Goldware was an amazing physician and man, he was so good with his patients and with me and other nurses always teaching us. I am grateful to have known him and grateful for his work in our community.

Camille Pavy Claibourne - June 18 at 07:35 AM



“ Condolences to the Goldware Family. Yes he was just such a true gentleman and friend. Always such a pleasure to have a conversation with him. Down to earth, caring and sincere. Prayers and comfort for Maureen and family.
Eddie and Mona Voorhies

Mona Voorhies - June 17 at 11:33 PM



“ Our daughter Nancy is 39 years old now. She was born with hydrocephalus — Dr. Goldware was very special to us—I was a very nervous mama—Dr. Goldware gave a part of his heart to Nancy—he used to put on his pig nose for her—it was funny but calmed me down—he would say she is just a normal child and treat her so—I remember one time we saw him about 10 or 11pm at night for her check-up—he has a special place in our hearts—Nancy is doing very well—never had any problems—I hope Dr. Goldware was not sick long.

Johnnie Olinger (Ray) - June 17 at 10:04 PM



“ Back in 2011 I was sent to Dr. Goldware for a second opinion on my back. I was already scheduled for back surgery. As I was sitting on his table waiting for him to come in and tell me something the other Dr. had said. When he walked in the office he told me not to let anyone touch my back. He told me it wasn't my back. It was my hip. He knew this even without an x-ray. And sure enough it was my hip. He saved me from a surgery I didn't need. He was a great Doctor and a caring person. My condolences and prayers are with the family. May he RIP in the arms of God.

Todd Thomas - June 17 at 09:13 PM



“ If it wasn't for Dr. Goldware, I would not be here today. He operated on me when I was just six weeks old. I loved going to see him for appointments as a child. I have many fond memories of him that I will carry with me always.

Nancy Choate - June 17 at 08:00 PM



“ He was a very gifted surgeon who always wanted what was best for his patients. I had the privilege to operate with him several times and treasured his expertise and advice in his field. He was always available as a friend and a physician. Rest In Peace, my friend. You will be missed by many. My sympathies to you, Maureen.
Joe Abendroth

Joe Abendroth - June 17 at 07:21 PM



“ My sincere and heartfelt condolences to Steve's family . He was a special friend and colleague of mine. We shared many cases..I as a trauma surgeon and he the neurosurgeon. . He was a gentleman and a scholar.
I miss his pleasant smile and good humor...

Ethel Smith, MD - June 17 at 06:55 PM



“ My condolences to the family. Enjoyed my years as a nurse leader working with him on the neuro unit in the 80's!

Deborah Ford - June 17 at 03:58 PM



“ Mrs. Goldware, Jeff, you have my deepest sympathies for the loss of your beloved. Dr. Goldware was one of the kindest most compassionate gentleman I've ever met and I wanted to express my deepest sympathy for your loss. My prayers and those of my family are with you all. With utmost sympathy, Susan Goo & Ruth

Susan Goss - June 17 at 03:37 PM



“ In 1973, when Dr Goldwater came to town, I was an operating room nurse at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital. We did a few cases together and he asked me to assist him in surgery whenever he did surgery. We worked together a lot in those days each respecting the others abilities. I have wonderful memories of our operating days and always admired his surgical talents. May he Rest In Peace.

Kathy Rodriguez - June 17 at 01:52 PM



“ Worked in the ED at OLOL back in the good old days and honored to have worked with Dr. Goldware. Loved and respected him so much! He helped many, many, many people. He will be missed. Prayers for the family.

Marianne - June 17 at 01:42 PM



“ Maureen - my deepest sympathy to you at this sad time - Clarice Burch

Clarice Burch - June 17 at 12:35 PM



“ Dear family and friends,

I don't think I've ever met Dr. Goldware, but I have always had the greatest respect for him. Maybe because His daughter, Lauren, was one of my favorite students at Lafayette High School.

Take care everyone!

Rest in peace Dr. Goldware!

Signed,

Barbara Spencer



Barbara Spencer - June 17 at 12:19 PM



“ Maureen, I was so sorry to read in today's Acadiana Advocate that Stephen has died. He was a good friend of Bill's, and Bill enjoyed fishing trips with him. Please accept my sympathy and prayers.

Bettie Skains Sonnier (widow of Dr. William Sonnier, Jr.)

Bettie Sonnier - June 17 at 11:42 AM



“ May he Rest In Peace , prayers to his family
Hugh Larriviere

hugh larriviere - June 17 at 10:45 AM



“ He was such a nice human being! When I would go into his office for a deposition, he and I would argue (fun argue) about whose pepper sauce/hot sauce was better. He always gave me a bottle when I would go to his office. Very nice, extremely intelligent man. I really enjoyed reporting his depositions. The way he explained things showed that he really cared, and made any procedure easier to understand.

Kris Carver

Kris Carver - June 17 at 10:36 AM



“ In 1975, on a Sunday night, Dr. Goldware was called from home to attend to a 12 year old boy who had suffered a depressed skull fracture in an accident. Surgery was successful and the boy recovered completely. The boy is our son and we will be forever grateful.

W. H. & K. O. Bollich

Wayne Bollich - June 17 at 10:25 AM



“ I was his assistant. I remember that well...so grateful all is well. He would always say he was doing the Lord's work...God Bless.

Lisa Woodward

Lisa - June 17 at 04:25 PM



“ . Having grown up with his children, it was with great sorrow to learn of Dr. Goldware's passing. He was a man dedicated to his family and profession, he will be missed by all those who knew him. May God give his family peace and comfort at this time.

Kevin Leyva.

Kevin Leyva - June 17 at 08:33 AM



“ Dr Goldware was a remarkable surgeon and man. You were the BEST we have ever known and we loved you dearly. Our thoughts and prayers to Dr Goldware's family during this difficult time. Rest in Peace Dr. Goldware and God Bless you and Thank you for you for everything you did for us - Richard (Ricky) and Lori LeBlanc-- New Iberia LA

Richard and Lori LeBlanc - June 17 at 07:51 AM



“ So sorry for you and your families loss! . Let the lord shine upon you! May you Rest In Peace Sir! Thank you for your service!

MargieAmy@yahoo.com - June 17 at 11:57 AM



“ So sorry for your loss and your families loss! Let the Perpetual light of the Lord Shine Down Upon You! May you Rest In Peace Sir! Thank you for your service!

MargieAmy@yahoo.com - June 17 at 12:02 PM



“ Dr. Goldware did surgery on my mother in maybe 2005 or so. She had NPH and he put her first shunt in and it broke a year later and he did her second surgery as well. He was the best doctor I have ever known and I loved him dearly. When I told my doctor that Dr. Goldware was going to do surgery on my mom, my doctor, Dr. Sylvester from Ville Platte told me that Dr. Goldware had saved his son's life earlier and he was so happy that Dr. Goldware was Mama's doctor. He said he was probably the best neurosurgeon in a tri-state area. I felt so much better. Mama loved him as well. In later years she developed Alzhiemers and had to be put in the nursing home where she later died in 2013. Some kind of way I got Dr. Goldware on the phone from my office about 2 maybe three years ago and I thought I recognized his voice so I asked him. He said yes. "That's me!" I told him I was Libby Chelette, Joy Chelette's daughter and he said you are one of my people! Give me your phone number. He, I think had maybe retired and then gone back to work again at the New Lourdes Hospital. I will never be able to give thanks enough for that man saving my mother's life with those two shunts. It breaks my heart to know that he is gone and I will love and remember him forever! Rest in Peace Dr. Goldware and God Bless you and Thank you for your Service! Libby Chelette Morrow LA



Libby Chelette - June 17 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest condolences to the family and friends of a wonderful human, friend and doctor. Ms. Maureen, you were always his light, strength and passion. I am so deeply sorry for your loss.

Dr. Goldware was a kind soul who constantly sought out to help others or cure the ill of the human before him and the world as a whole. He will be dearly missed. His brilliance and surgical excellence were extraordinary, as was his humanity.

Until I see you again my friend. Enjoy the good vino and the golden retrievers run free.

Elena Knezek - June 16 at 11:23 PM



“ I am an X-Ray Technologist who worked with Dr. Goldware. He trained me as a young, female, to deal with the pressures in a man's field in the early 80's. He taught me how to think clearly, quickly, and cognitively to attack the task at hand. He never knew I saw him in the ice cream shop in his fatigues, coming home or leaving to go to Desert Storm. My father was a Marine and I had the upmost reverence for this magnificent Surgeon, Military force, and Gentleman who really loved his work, people, patient's. He also introduced me to Beethoven as his surgery went on, I believed that's how he would keep centered, calm, and relaxed as the complicated surgeries he preformed continued with GREAT SKILL and EASE!!! He will always be in my memory as a great man. My condolences to his loving family who shared him with the world. Thank you so much!

Amy Terrell Savoy - June 17 at 08:51 AM



“ A consummate clinician and always a patient focused physician. The lives he impacted in a positive way during his career in Acadiana are countless. Prayers to all his family and those who knew him. His presence and memory live on with all of us. May God bless him on his journey...

Chuck Burnell

Chuck Burnell - June 17 at 10:03 PM



“ Dr Goldware was a GREAT MAN, GREAT HUSBAND, GREAT FATHER and a GREAT Grandfather and a GREAT friend to so many. A talented man in so many ways that TRULY CARED about his patients. I know two people he took care of and will always be thankful to him. He Loved Life and will be missed by so many

Henry Mouton - June 16 at 11:09 PM



“ Brilliant physician with the GREATEST love for people! He taught me endless lessons and always gave the biggest “bear hugs”! Doc will be truly missed.

Stephanie Broussard - June 16 at 09:17 PM



“ I’m saddened to hear he has passed. He not only was the best surgeon but the most compassionate. He was always one step ahead of me for my needs. He will be greatly missed. Prayers for the families.

Diana Quebodeaux

diana quebodeaux - June 16 at 09:08 PM



“ Dr. Goldware did my back surgery in 1995 (plus or minus). He had been recommended to me by several Doctors. I had reoccurring back pain so he did a laminectomy on L4/L5. After the surgery there was almost immediate relief - no pain. The results of that surgery lasted 17 years before I again had severe back pain. More recently, as I was recovering from another back surgery I ran into him in front of Lafayette Surgical and mentioned that his surgery resulted in a great surgical recovery and thanked him. He had retired by that time. He wrote down my name and the date of the surgery - said that has to be a great record!
Truly one of the great surgeons, he will be missed!! Bob Stewart PhD

Bob Stewart - June 16 at 08:57 PM



“ Deepest Condolences from Kenneth and Cheryl Brown . Awesome person!

Cheryl Brown - June 16 at 10:21 PM



“ Our Deepest Sympathy to His family.

Obrey & Marie Benoit - June 16 at 08:55 PM



“ Dr. Goldware was a guiding force to me, when I worked with him in his room at LGMC. He always told me that I was a natural at work and that I would make a great Scrub tech all of the time. He helped me with my travel needs before I became a traveler and was gracious enough to get me employment, out of state on my journey. On my travel journey, I would talk about Dr. Goldware often to my co-workers and Docs. Thank you for all that you taught me, in my time with you. I am a much better Surgical Tech and a better person for the knowledge you bestowed onto me. Rest well, Dr. Goldware.

Brent Racca

Brent Racca - June 16 at 08:54 PM



“ Dr. Goldware was such a special person. He made the world a better place. Rest in Peace.

Tonya Hundley - June 16 at 09:04 PM



“ I had the honor to work with Dr. Goldware, as a floor nurse, [6floor] @ the old OLOL, for 24 years. He was always in a good mood{most of the time.LOL}.

I had the good fortune of having him as my surgeon in 2004, for a back surg.

He will be missed. RIP my friend. Becky Champagne

Rebecca Champagne - June 16 at 08:53 PM



“ Jeff. My condolences for you having your dad pass away. Brian Fischer

Brian Fischer - June 16 at 07:31 PM



“ Dr. Goldware performed surgeries on me three times my first year of life in 1976 and without those surgeries I would not be here to type this message.. He was a very brilliant and a compassionate doctor and managed to keep up with me all of this time through older relatives of mine. My condolences to his family and all of the people he helped over the years,

Elizabeth Du - June 16 at 07:03 PM



“ My sympathy to his family! What a wonderful and knowledgeable man he was. My son was one of his first patient in 1973 at 2 weeks old. He wasn't only concern for his patients but for there family to. I remember one surgery during the holidays, my sister and I we're sitting on floor after midnight watching over my son when Dr Goldware walk in wearing a tuxedo. He apparently had an event he had attended to but came in to check up on my son. This just made me appreciate him more. He performed 11 of 12 surgeries on my son by the age of 12 years old. I thank God for him and Prayed for him. My son is 46 years old today. Lives on his own has a job and self sufficient. He was one of Dr Goldware miracles!!!!!!!

Constance Hoffpauir - June 16 at 06:52 PM



“ May you rest in peace. I learned from you. I respected you. The community is at a loss with your departure. Prayers to your family sir.

LCDR Steve Mandell, CRNA - June 16 at 05:03 PM



“ I will miss my friend and neighbor, my condolences to you Maureen and all of Dr. Goldware's family!



Belinda Russo - June 16 at 02:52 PM



“ Our condolences on the passing of Dr. Goldware. We are thinking of you all and send our deepest sympathies. May the love and care of those around you provide comfort and peace to get you through the days ahead. Wish we could give you all hugs in person. With love, Dan, Diane, Jack and Kate Heun

Diane Heun - June 16 at 01:57 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Lisa Woodward - June 16 at 12:57 PM



“ There are no words that exist to express my deep sorrow over the passing of my “Boss.” I was his private assistant in surgery for 20 years. He was also my dear friend. The hours that we worked together in surgery are so numerous as to not be countable.

He was the best of the best. His patient patient advocacy was second to none, and everyone who ever worked with him knew it.

He taught me everything important that I know about neurosurgery, I would have worked for no one else. I was so confident in his skill, that when he walked In the

room, I knew everything was going to be handled with the greatest of skill and care. He managed the care of my son as he fought his battle with brain cancer. Without him, his knowledge, and watchful eye, I don't think that my son would have live as long as he did.

After I retired, we became great friends, and would have lunch now and again. He helped to make me a better person, and for that, I will always be so grateful. He was a great man, and it was a privilege to work for him, and also a privilege to be his friend.

Rest well...Lisa Woodward

My sincerest condolences to Maureen, and all of his family. He always spoke so highly of all of you...

Lisa Woodward - June 16 at 12:40 PM