



## Dr. Raymond Van Grubbs

July 23, 1946 - December 19, 2020

Dr. Raymond Van Grubbs, 74, husband of Jennifer Burgin Grubbs passed away Saturday, December 19, 2020.

Born in Oconee County, he was the son of the late Raymond Benjamin Grubbs and Swanee Pitts Grubbs. He was a graduate of Clemson University and the Medical University of South Carolina. He was a general surgeon in Greer, S.C., and a member of the Fellow American College of Surgeons, where he served as teller for the past 40 years. Preceding his death he worked as Medical director with National Health Care. He served as the physician of the U.S. Olympic Kayaking Team and wrote the first E.M.S. handbook. He served his country well as a Captain of the U.S. Army.

Living life to the fullest, he was an instrument rated pilot, Captain of his own Boat "No Agenda", track doctor at Darlington Raceway for 30 years, a certified scuba diver, rode motorcycles on many cross country excursions, an epicurean of food and wine, and was passionate about jaguars and motor homes. He read a book a day and loved relaxing with his animals by the ocean. He was a true adventurer and gentleman. Having the biggest heart, he made an impact on many lives. He treasured his family and friends.

Surviving are his wife, Jennifer Burgin Grubbs of the home; one daughter, Phyllis Caroline Grubbs of Piedmont; two sons, Raymond Van Grubbs, Jr. of Pelzer and Timothy O'Brien Fagan of Asheville, N.C.; four grandchildren including Margaret Elizabeth Morris of Rock Hill, Taylor Koble of Germany and Zoe Britain McCuen of Piedmont. He has one great grandchild Aurora May

Baucom of Rock Hill.

An honoring memorial service will be held Monday, May 3, 2021 at The View Point at Buckhorn Creek, 3411 State Park Road at 3:30 p.m. Friends and family who would like to ride in the Bike procession should meet at Harley Davidson of Greenville center stage at 2:30 p.m. From there we will ride to the venue. There will be an intimate short service to celebrate this amazing man who lived an extraordinary life. There will be music, food trucks and drinks to add to the Celebration of Doc's life.

Memorials may be made to Greenville Humane Society, 305 Airport Road, Greenville, S.C. 29607.

Online condolences may be made at [www.thewoodmortuary.com](http://www.thewoodmortuary.com)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAY 3. 3:30 PM (ET)

The View Point at Buckhorn Creek  
3411 State Park Road  
Greenville, SC 29609

# Tribute Wall

LS

“ *Phyllis and Ray, your dad and mom were such good friends of ours in med school. We played cards with them, ate pizza on the floor of your living room, and put you guys and our Linsey to bed together many nights. Linsey and Ray were one and Phyllis, you were 3 or 4. Those were wonderful days even though we were all as poor as dirt. Your dad sure turned out to be an extraordinary man. I'm so sorry you lost him as such an early age. Lanie Scarborough*

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**Lanie Scarborough** - March 25, 2024 at 09:51 AM

TL

“ *Mr Grubbs took me to my very first Clemson game when I was 10 ,I have a lot of great memories with his family I am very sorry for your loss !*

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**Todd Lynch** - May 02, 2021 at 07:39 PM



“ *Dr Grubbs was a great Medical Director. I am honored to have worked with him and hate to hear of his passing! Praying for his family!*

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**Mandy Cochran** - April 23, 2021 at 06:44 PM

CD

“ Van enjoyed life and wanted everyone with him to enjoy it too. Charlie and I enjoyed trips with Van and Jen to Hilton Head, Folly Beach, Surfside Beach, many dinners and watching our Clemson Tigers. Loved to hear his stories about his boat and plane trips. Have met many people who said he saved their lives as a surgeon. Van will be greatly missed by all. We were like family and loved each other dearly. He and my Charlie are know together forever in heaven. Love you Jen and will always be here for you!

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**Cindy Duncan** - January 03, 2021 at 04:28 PM

TL

“ Tammy Lister lit a candle in memory of Dr. Raymond Van Grubbs



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**Tammy Lister** - December 30, 2020 at 08:43 PM

TL

“ We will truly missed you Van!! You was truly smart, enjoyable & knew your food & wine and travel. We so enjoyed our trips to Hilton Head & all our dinners & Friendship. Of course you was the oldest as you & Steve would argue about 6 weeks a part! Truly had the sweetest wife & my sista! We will take care of her. We will never forget you! RIP  
Tammy Lister

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**Tammy Lister** - December 30, 2020 at 08:42 PM

MH

Sorry for your loss. It is a great loss for everyone  
Prayers for you and your family.

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**Maxine Howell** - May 03, 2021 at 07:55 AM

TL

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



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**Tammy Lister** - December 30, 2020 at 08:36 PM

HJ

“ Most know Van as Raymond but growing up in Fair Play with him, he was Van and will be forever Van to me. His dad was the mail carrier and his mom taught us all in the third grade at Fair Play school. We all lived in “ down town Fair Play”. Van’s back door was about 50 yard from my back door so we spent many hours together between the two houses. I could tell you story after story about Van so I will only do one. After school his mother would listen to the soap operas on the radio and paid little attention to two 12 year old boys. Most of us already knew how to drive but we had no permits until age 14. Van’s dad did not finish is mail deliveries until 4:30 or so. They had a mint green 1955 Ford. That afternoon Van got the keys to this ‘55. We were smart enough to know not to start it for our joy ride because his mother would hear the engine. We pushed the car out of the drive on to the main drag in Fair Play and coasted past Wallace’s store before we fired the engine. Being a straight drive all we did was turn the key, clutch it and she fired right off. We took only a 3 minute drive around Fair Play. Our plan was to coast back into the garage so his mom would not hear a thing. However, that day his dad finished his mail route early and was sitting on the garage bench when we returned. He ask us if we had a good drive. There was a bamboo patch between Van’s house and my granddaddy Mays. It was spring and the shoots were everywhere. Mr. Raymond carried a little sterling silver pocket knife and he proceeded to walk over to the bamboo patch. He cut a nice keen shoot about 3 feet long. Van and I both received the joys of that bamboo that afternoon. No need to say we waited until our 14th birthday before we drove unsupervised. I will miss you my friend. All the good times we had together in Fair Play and Charleston at MUSC will forever be in my memory.

Harry B. Mays, Jr.  
Fair Play, SC

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harry mays, jr - December 29, 2020 at 07:38 PM

JP

“ I remember Van from Seneca High School. When you are an underclassman you look up to the others with wonder. Thank you for being one of my high school memories.



Judy Barnett Potter - December 29, 2020 at 05:02 PM

RG

“ A fellow physician, pilot and friend. He will be missed. Rhonda and Steve Gooding.

Rhonda Gooding - December 28, 2020 at 08:48 PM

HW

“ So very sorry for your loss. Dr. Grubbs was a wonderful doctor and man. I actually enjoyed going to the doctor when it was him. He took time to sew up my knee after a bad fall before he was headed to a Clemson game. He was dressed head to toe in orange. He did not have to do that, but he saw me in the waiting room and offered, as I had seen him for other things.

Harold Waters  
Greer, SC

Harold Waters - December 28, 2020 at 12:52 PM

JW

“ So very sorry for your loss. Your Dad was a sweet and funny man. I know he will be missed. 🙏🙏 My mom has many great memories of you guys growing up in Springfield. Janet B Winn

janet b winn - December 28, 2020 at 07:47 AM

BH

“ *Sushi, sake, really good wine, travel, football rivalry and introducing me to the sweetest person I've ever known. Doc, you will be missed and Jennifer, you are my sister forever.*

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**beth hughes** - December 27, 2020 at 10:32 AM

MA

“ *I never worked with a finer surgeon-altho some had more patience. He was ever a gentleman and a teacher. He will be sorely missed.*

*Thinking of you, Jennifer.*

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**marlaowings** - December 26, 2020 at 12:17 PM

NU

“ *he fixed my first hernia and did great*



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**no facebook thank u** - December 25, 2020 at 11:17 AM

DR

“ There is not enough room to share all of the memories, just too many. From the endless Harley Davidson rides, Daytona, Myrtle Beach bike weeks to the many many meals we all shared, even though Doc would NEVER let me cook for him. We will always hold dear and close to our hearts the times Ed, Blissie and I shared with him, Jennifer and Timmy. Doc was truly an AMAZING man who cared for so many and had so many friends, all who are going to miss him terribly. We will not get to share anymore Clemson games or cheers, let it be known it was not only the football, Doc loved all things Clemson and would say Clemson is God's Country. So I vision the roads of Gold to Heaven have orange tiger paws. I know Ponzu was waiting on Doc when he entered the gates as was Charlie, Tony, his Mother and Father. We love Doc so much and our hearts are broken.

One last time for Doc.....CLEMSON TIGERRRRS FIGHT TIGERS  
FIGHT TIGERS FIGHT FIGHT FIGHT.

*Ed, Deb and Blissie*

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**DEBRA ROSS** - December 24, 2020 at 09:01 AM

SL

“ Will miss You Brother. May you Rest In  
Peace!  
*Steve Lister*



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**Steve Lister** - December 23, 2020 at 06:57 PM