

Dr. Stephen Griffith Anderson 1938 - 2017 Obituary



Dr. Stephen Griffith Anderson, 6 October 1938 to 9 November 2017

Our beloved 'Slow' passed away on November 9, 2017, and returned home to be with his Lord and Maker. He was known to those who survive him -- as husband of 54 years to Cynthia Finley Anderson; as father to Ruskin Gregory Anderson (Alice Chen Anderson) and Margaret Anderson Lavender (Stephen Blake Lavender); as 'Paw-Paw' to his grandchildren, Victoria Corryne Lavender, Alexandra Claire Lavender, Cynthia Ferrell Lavender, Frances Elizabeth Lavender, and Nathalie Grace Lavender; as brother to Kitty Clay Young and Mary Lynn Anderson; as uncle to dear nieces and nephews, and as 'Slow Roller,' 'Doc,' 'Cap'n,' and more, to dear friends and family. Dr. Anderson left a legacy of dedication, love, and humor.

He was a proud Spartanburg-bred, South Carolinian who dreamed of being a 'Doc' since primary school. He finished undergrad in three years at Emory University and completed his medical school at the same alma mater in 1963. The following year, he moved to Winston-Salem, North Carolina, to do his residency at North Carolina Baptist Hospital/Bowman Gray School of Medicine (now known as Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center). In 1968, he served as a Major in the [U.S. Air Force](#) and as Chief of Professional Services at the Myrtle Beach Air Force Base Hospital. After his military service, he returned to Winston-Salem to join the clinical faculty at Bowman Gray in 1970. In 1975, he joined the Lyndhurst Gynecologic Associates, practicing there until he retired in 2001.

Dr. Anderson raised the bar on excellent work with a generous heart. He actively served on many boards and societies, including the North Carolina Obstetrical and Gynecological Society, the Board at Forsyth Memorial Hospital and the Board at Novant Health. During his career, he served as a National Board Examiner for eleven years on the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology in Chicago, IL, as Chief of the OB/GYN Department at Forsyth Medical Center, and as President of the Forsyth Medical Staff. During his time as a clinical professor at Bowman Gray, he helped pioneer obstetrical ultrasound technology and helped establish Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center's 'sono school,' the Program for Medical Ultrasound, which today receives national recognition in the training and assessment of this crucial technology. Medical professionals often sought him for consults on complex OB/GYN cases.

After his medical career, he became a zealous seaman and explorer. 'Cap'n' Anderson shared these adventures, such as the memorable trip of the InterCoastal Waterway from Florida to Maine, with a wide swath of friends and family (who served as first mates and yessir-ed him along the way). He explored deeply and widely all over the world, chronicling his findings to eager listeners and fellow travelers with curiosity, insight, and wit.

A devout Presbyterian, serving as a deacon, elder and adult Sunday School teacher at First Presbyterian Church of Winston-Salem, North Carolina and at First Presbyterian Church of Naples, Florida. Throughout his life, he quietly supported individuals and groups who inspired and moved him, including the United Way, the United Negro College Fund, Senior Services, and Crossnore School and Children's Home. He lavishly gave in time, spirit, and wisdom to

many and also felt so blessed by having his wife, his children and their spouses, and his grandchildren, along with his extended family. His wit, intelligence, love for life and feistiness will forever stay with us. We love you, Slow.

It is only fitting that Dr. Anderson/Cap'n/Slow has the last word: 'I wondered if my faith would be strong and helpful when I really needed it. It was, and more importantly, He reached out to me. That may have been my biggest lesson learned the hard way -- that Jesus is always there for wayward, needy people like me. I should have said it more frequently when I could that when you become in need, He will be there for you.'

A memorial service will be held at 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 14, 2017, at First Presbyterian Church, 300 N. Cherry Street, Winston-Salem, NC, immediately followed by a reception at Old Town Country Club, 2875 Old Town Club Road, Winston-Salem, NC. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to Crossnore School and Children's Home, 1001 Reynolda Road, Winston-Salem, NC, 27104, or First Presbyterian Church, 300 N. Cherry Street, Winston-Salem, NC, www.1stpres.com. Online condolences may be sent to www.salemfh.com.

Published in Sparturg Herald-Journal from Nov. 11 to Nov. 12, 2017