



## Dr. William Joseph McGowan

January 26, 1955 - December 27, 2023

Dr. William Joseph McGowan, 68, passed away on December 27, 2023.

Bill McGowan was born on January 26, 1955, to Catherine and John McGowan in Dayton, Ohio. He was the youngest of four boys. His family lived in Charleston, West Virginia until moving to Little Rock, Arkansas in 1969.

Bill attended Little Rock Catholic High School for Boys, graduating with high honors in 1973. He made lifelong friends at Catholic High, recently attending his 50-year class reunion. His academic journey continued at New College in Sarasota, Florida for his first two years of college. He returned to Little Rock to care for his mother and attended the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. At the urging of his mother, he took the MCAT, and was accepted to the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences without completing an undergraduate degree.

In 1982, Bill married Kelly Carithers. Following his graduation from medical school in 1985, they moved to Fayetteville for his family practice residency. During this time, Bill and Kelly were blessed with two sons, Patrick and John. They enjoyed an active and joyous family life throughout their forty-one years of a wonderful marriage, and thoroughly loved being grandparents.

After completing his residency, Bill began a 35-year career as a family practice

physician in Springdale. For the last 21 years of practice, he was affiliated with MANA Family Medicine, Springdale. The last three years of his career were especially rewarding as he worked alongside his son Patrick until his retirement in 2022. Board-certified with the American Academy of Family Practice, Bill epitomized the term "family doctor," touching countless lives and making a lasting impact on his community. Bill had friends too numerous to count.

A devoted member of St. Raphael Catholic Church, Bill was actively involved in all aspects of parish life. He was devout in his faith and took particular pride in befriending and caring for each parish priest.

Bill found the most joy in his family, being close to his three older brothers, his sons Patrick and John, and especially his four grandsons and great-nephew, who affectionately referred to him as "Doc."

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Catherine and John McGowan, and his father-in-law, Patrick Carithers. He is survived by his wife, Kelly Carithers; son Patrick McGowan and wife Camryn, grandsons William and Luke; son John McGowan and wife Morgan, grandsons Grayson and Merrick; brother John McGowan and wife Beverly, of Harrisonburg, VA; brother Michael McGowan of San Miguel de Allende, Mexico; brother Tom McGowan of Little Rock; mother-in-law, Bettye Carithers; brother-in-law, Lindsey Carithers; four nieces, and three nephews.

A memorial visitation will be held on January 2, 2024, from 4pm to 6pm at Sisco Funeral Home in Springdale. On January 3, 2024, a rosary will be said at 9:15 am, followed by a funeral mass at 10am, at St. Raphael Catholic Church in Springdale. Interment will follow at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Fayetteville.

Memorials may be made to St. Raphael Catholic Church or the Audubon Society, both of which held special meaning for Dr. William J. McGowan.

Online condolences may be left at [www.siscofuneral.com](http://www.siscofuneral.com)

# Cemetery Details

## St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery

3639 E. Mission Blvd.  
Fayetteville, AR 72701

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

JAN 2. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Sisco Funeral Chapel  
705 W Meadow Ave  
Springdale, AR 72764

## Rosary

JAN 3. 9:15 AM (CT)

St. Raphael Catholic Church  
1386 S. W. End St.  
Springdale, AR 72764

## Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 3. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Raphael Catholic Church  
1386 S. W. End St.  
Springdale, AR 72764



# Tribute Wall

KG

“ Kimberly G. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.

Kimberly G. - January 02, 2024 at 11:24 PM

ST

“ Rest easy Doc. You took care of me for many years and I will be forever thankful for the wisdom you shared with me along the way. You were definitely my favorite doctor. I'm going to miss you. The world was a better place with you in it.

Susan Taylor - January 02, 2024 at 08:45 PM

DA

“ Deepest Sympathy. Bruce and Adoncie purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.



Deepest Sympathy. Bruce and Adoncie - January 02, 2024 at 04:14 PM

TR

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time.

Tom Reed - January 02, 2024 at 03:46 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.



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January 02, 2024 at 02:54 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden* was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.



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January 02, 2024 at 01:11 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.



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January 02, 2024 at 11:39 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.



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January 01, 2024 at 04:53 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.*



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January 01, 2024 at 03:11 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.*



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January 01, 2024 at 12:50 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.*



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January 01, 2024 at 11:18 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.*



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December 31, 2023 at 05:10 PM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.*



December 31, 2023 at 01:34 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.*



December 31, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *To the McGowan family: thank you for sharing Dr. William McGowan with so many of us. Dr. McGowan was more than a great physician and friend to me and my family. Bill, was a man of tremendous character, treating everyone he came in contact with, with equality and respect. He did everything the right way-faith, family and work, in that order. We are truly thankful and blessed for his touching our lives. A true man of character and kindness. God, got a great man. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Patrick and the entire family, Ed and Star McCreless*

**Ed McCreless** - December 31, 2023 at 10:36 AM

BD

“ *Condolences to the family. He was such a warm and happy person- one of the truly good!* ”



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**Betty Dodson** - December 31, 2023 at 09:49 AM

CJ

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall* ”



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**Colin Johnson** - December 30, 2023 at 11:50 PM

SG

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall* ”



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**Steve Graves** - December 30, 2023 at 11:27 PM

SG

“ *One of the best. It was an honor to be called his friend. '* ”

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**Steve Graves** - December 30, 2023 at 11:29 PM

KM

“ *A wonderful Family Dr. for many years for my family and many families in this area. A real joy to know Dr. McGowan.* ”

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**karen Mowry** - December 30, 2023 at 10:41 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.*



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December 30, 2023 at 08:56 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Melanie Beck** - December 30, 2023 at 08:04 PM



“ *He was a great doctor and he will be missed. My Doctor for over 25 years till he retired.*



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**Debbie Bohannon** - December 30, 2023 at 05:10 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.*



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December 30, 2023 at 04:37 PM

PW

“ *Paula Storment Workman planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.*

Paula Storment Workman - December 30, 2023 at 04:37 PM

PW

“ *I was blessed to work with Dr. McGowan for many years. I always looked forward to our talks about our kids and business. He was always so kind to me in every encounter. I will miss him and will always remember him as a friend. Many prayer for his family during this time of great loss. Rest in peace Dr. McGowan.*

*Paula Storment Workman*

Paula Storment Workman - December 30, 2023 at 04:33 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.*



December 30, 2023 at 11:22 AM

SF

“ *Dr McGowan had been the primary physician for my late husband Lyman, & me since the early 90s. He was so caring & always took the time with us, no matter what our situation might be. He will be very missed. My condolences & sympathy to the McGowan family.*  
*Sharon Ferguson*

Sharon Ferguson - December 30, 2023 at 11:20 AM

AR

“ Alan Roller lit a candle in memory of Dr. William Joseph McGowan



Alan Roller - December 30, 2023 at 09:25 AM

JG

“ Dr McGowen was my doctor for more than 30 years. One of his very 1st patients. He was a great doctor and had great care for his patients. The medical community suffers a great loss as does his previous patients. God be with the family at this time 🙏



Janne Green - December 29, 2023 at 08:17 PM

MD

“ Margaret Davis lit a candle in memory of Dr. William Joseph McGowan



Margaret Davis - December 29, 2023 at 07:28 PM

BP

“ Doc as my husband referred to him as was not only our family Doctor, friend but also a neighbor who between him and my husband and another friend Ronnie was our neighbor watch team. They knew everything that went on on Lake Rd. Dr. McGowan carried us thru some tuff times with illness and just keeping us up on our health. He cared for you, your family and all that was going on. We talked about Dan a lot and he would say let me take care of you and the good Lord will take care of Dan. He was a caring Doctor and would come to the house if I needed him. He was a true Family Doctor! He will be missed. Prayers and thoughts are with the family. RIP my friend.

Betty Phillips - December 29, 2023 at 06:12 PM

LR

He was my dad Dr all my family love him a great Dr and person praying for all his family

linda Reddell - December 29, 2023 at 06:38 PM

CB

“ Bill was a genuinely a good person. What most people don't know is that Bill was one of the 3 best rebounders (basketball) in the world (for his size). The other two are Sidney Moncrief and Dennis Rodman. Tenacious. Many will miss you Bill ❤️😭. Chris Bennett

Chris Bennett - December 29, 2023 at 04:26 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.



December 29, 2023 at 01:04 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.*



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December 29, 2023 at 12:40 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.*



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December 29, 2023 at 12:18 PM



“ *Margaret Davis lit a candle in memory of Dr. William Joseph McGowan*



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**Margaret Davis** - December 29, 2023 at 12:15 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.*



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December 29, 2023 at 12:02 PM

DC

“ Dr. And Mrs. Stephen E. Carter planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.

Dr. And Mrs. Stephen E. Carter - December 29, 2023 at 12:02 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.



December 29, 2023 at 11:56 AM

MM

“ Mark and Sara Moses planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.

Mark and Sara Moses - December 29, 2023 at 11:56 AM

DG

“ Kelly so sorry for your loss. It is a huge loss for all mankind. Bill was such a great man. Dale and Nana Garrett

dale garrett - December 29, 2023 at 11:00 AM

DM

“ When a young man choosing basketball teams at the ymca says to the guy normally chosen last "play on our team, don't pass, shoot" you know then he will be a great man....and he was!

david mckinney - December 29, 2023 at 10:49 AM

ML

“ Kelly, I am very sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Marilyn Lively - December 29, 2023 at 10:43 AM

JT

“ Our family doctor for over thirty years. He was our friend as well as doctor. After he retired he would come sit on our front porch and visit. Praise for his homegoing. Praying for his family. Kenneth and Juanita Todd

Juanita Todd - December 29, 2023 at 10:10 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.



December 29, 2023 at 10:00 AM

SF

“ Scott Bronson and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. William Joseph McGowan.

Scott Bronson and family - December 29, 2023 at 10:00 AM

SB

“ What can you say about Bill? A heck of a doctor and man and he loved his family and he was always one to strike up a conversation with you. He was my primary care physician until his retirement. He will be missed by all of his office family, his family and his many friends!!!!

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**Scott Bronson** - December 29, 2023 at 09:53 AM

GK

I know Bill since high school he was a good person and loved what he did he will be greatly missed. Praying for family may he rest in peace

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**Gene Kordsmeier** - December 29, 2023 at 03:16 PM



What a kind man who had a loving heart.

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**Marilyn Fisher** - December 29, 2023 at 10:43 PM

RH

Bill..aka DOC ...SAVED MY LIFE, MAKING A DECISION CORRECTING A MISTAKE MADE BY ANOTHER MD. HE IMMEDIATELY SENT ME TO SPRINGDALE MEMORIAL, HAD A GREAT SURGEON, DR. BILL KENDRICK, MD..WAITING WITH THE GURNEY AT THE ER ENTRANCE..IMMEDIATELY TO SURGERY, FOUR HOURS LATER, RECOVERY, THREE MONTHS LATER RELEASED. HE WAS A GOOD FRIEND, BROUGHT BOYS TO OUR FARM TO PICK BLUEBERRIES FOR THEIR FAMILY WHILE WE VISITED. PRAYERS FOR COMFORT FOR THE EXTENDED FAMILY.

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**RON HARRISON** - December 30, 2023 at 10:27 PM

AA

Kelly, peace to your heart. Bruce and Ann Applegate

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**Ann Applegate** - December 31, 2023 at 12:54 AM

SH

*Bill had sure a warm smile and would welcome you into any conversation. You immediately could tell he loved the Lord, his sweet family and others. Praying for comfort to his family.*

**Sherrie Hankins** - January 02, 2024 at 11:09 AM

BH

*Kelly and family, my deepest condolences for your loss. Dr. McGowan was a family doctor and part of our church family. Whether in his office or at a church youth event, he was always kind and supportive to my sons. We were blessed and honored to have been his patients and his friend. We will miss his wonderful smile.*

**Becky Harris** - January 02, 2024 at 06:35 PM

TG

*The world has lost a wonderful human being. We treasure the memories of the few moments we shared.*

**Tom Galbraith** - January 03, 2024 at 09:37 AM

CC

*Was my doctor for 18 years until he retired. Great doc and person. He will be missed!*

**Carlton Cagle** - January 04, 2024 at 01:59 PM