



## M. Howell,

October 4, 1937 - October 31, 2012

With great sorrow, we announce the passing of Marshall Gaynor Howell, Jr., M.D. on October 31, 2012. He passed unexpectedly in the presence of family and friends at Methodist Hospital in Henderson, KY.

Gaynor, affectionately known as Big Daddy, by family and friends, touched many lives during his 75 years. He was born October 4, 1937 in Chattanooga, Tennessee to Marshall Gaynor Howell, Sr and Elizabeth Wilkerson Howell. He graduated from The McCallie School in 1955. He attended the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga for his undergraduate studies and received his medical degree from the University of Tennessee Medical School in Memphis. In 1961, Gaynor married Barbara Louise Burkhardt, a UT nursing graduate from Knoxville, TN. They served in the Air Force in Grand Forks, North Dakota after his internship and went on to an obstetrics and gynecology residency at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

Following his postgraduate studies, Barbara and Gaynor moved to Henderson, KY where he practiced obstetrics and gynecology from 1966 until his retirement in 1996. His partners were Joe McGruder, M.D., A.D. Sprague, M.D., Jorge Cardenal, M.D., Dennis Owen, M.D., Marcia Cave, M.D. and Marshall G. Howell III, M.D.. Louise Buckman worked with Dr. Howell as his office nurse for over 25 years. In his professional career, Gaynor tirelessly served our community and Methodist Hospital, delivering thousands of our

children and serving as a leader of the medical staff.

Since his retirement, Gaynor's energy was poured into his family and service to his Lord as a deacon of Henderson's First Baptist Church and with the Salvation Army. As a transplant to Kentucky, he was a huge Wildcat fan. His love of politics and fast cars was legendary.

Gaynor is survived by his wife of 51 years, Barbara, his children Ellie Coursey of Henderson, Dr. Marshall Howell of Henderson and Sarah Jenkins of Prosper, Tx, son in law Marty Coursey, daughter in law Dr. Jennifer Howell, and son in law Stephen Jenkins. His beloved grandchildren are Lily Coursey, Marty Coursey, Jr., Marshall G. Howell IV, Jackson N. Howell, Davis M. Howell, Katherine Jenkins, Millie Jenkins and Jake Jenkins. Also survived by his Aunt Mary Alice Wilson of Chattanooga, and cousins: Judy Ellington of Chattanooga, Maureen Ward of Lakewood, GA; Jean Smallwood of Huntsville, AL; Rev. Joe Parrish of New York City; Charlie Parrish of Sand Pointe, ID; Bobby Parrish of Albany, GA; Julie Gasbarri of Half Moon Bay, CA; Steve Kirby of Sand Pointe, ID; Scott Kirby of Yorba Linda, CA; and Jerry Kirby of McKinney, TX.

Gaynor loved his Lord, his family and his community. He will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing this great man. Visitation will be at Benton Glunt Funeral Home Friday November 2, 2012 from 2 PM until 8 PM, and again from 9:30 AM until the memorial service at Henderson's First Baptist Church on Saturday morning at 10:30 AM. Reverend Todd Linn, PhD will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Gaynor's name to the First Baptist Church, the Salvation Army and the Henderson Regional Hospital Foundation.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 2. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Benton-Glunt Funeral Home  
629 S. Green Street  
Henderson, KY 42420

## Visitation

NOV 3. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Henderson's First Baptist Church  
307 Center Street  
Henderson, KY 42420

## Memorial Service

NOV 3. 10:30 AM (CT)

Henderson's First Baptist Church  
307 Center Street  
Henderson, KY 42420

# Tribute Wall



“ *M. Howell,*

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November 29, 2022 at 08:01 AM



“ *Although I never met Gaynor, I feel as if I knew him well. For sure we shared the same political point of view and communicated with each other by email on a frequent basis.*

*I will miss not hearing from him and now must go back and look at some of our messages.*

*As his loss is mourned, all should think about the kind of world we would now live in if there were many more people like Gaynor Howell. He has set a high bar for the rest of us and is now in a higher place.*

*The fact that he has chosen to remember The Salvation Army tells me much about Gaynor.*

*May God comfort Gaynor and his family.*

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**Reginald Dickson - Battle Creek , MI - Friend via email and Leo Winches -**  
November 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ I have such wonderful memories of working with Dr. Howell at CMH from 1979-1980 while my husband was stationed overseas in Turkey. I came home to be near family and Henderson was home. I have memories of his "gentle giant" attitude, kind words and encouragement when the chips were down. He was always positive and gave a fairly new nurse such a wonderful start in her career (me). We delivered many babies together and several times he would ask me to stay over for a scared young Mom knowing I was the nurse she was accustomed to. He loved what he did & it was obvious, God has blessed me with wonderful mentors throughout my career & I count Dr., Howell as one of them. My heart is sad at his passing. Sincerely, Terri Dalton MSN, RN-BC, NE-BC

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**Terri D - Dayton, OH - Nursing colleague** - November 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ I was shocked and saddened to learn of your loss. Heaven truly gained a great man. I know that you all have wonderful memories, and they will carry you until you see him again. In your grief, do these four things: remember, laugh, cry, repeat...for a long time.

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**Renee Gault Jones - Scottdale, PA** - November 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Mrs. Barbara Howell,

*Today I have been informed by the McCallie School Alumni Office of the death of Gaynor, with whom I shared many years at McCallie as a classmate. I wish to express to you and the rest of your family my deepest condolences and my prayers will be with my friend Gaynor.*

*Sincerely,  
Alberto McGregor  
Managua, Nicaragua*

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**Alberto McGregor** - November 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ *Im so sorry for your loss ! I can remember visiting your home while i was growing up and how Dr and Mrs. Howell were always there to offer assistance and a compassionate shoulder. He was a very wise and caring individual who somehow always knew how to invoke the best in everyone, he will be missed here on earth but very welcome in Heaven. God Bless.*

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**Mike Jankowski - Westminster, MD - Friend** - November 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ *I was working ay Community Methodist when he first arrived in Henderson. He was a wonderful Dr. and he and Barbara were wonderful friends,. They were both at our side with helping hands and delicious food after the death of my wonderful sister ( sister in law) on Sept. 5th.We will miss this "Gentle Giant "and his family Our prayers are with them Ora Lee & Marshall*

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**Marshall & Ora Lee Galloway - Ocala, FL - Friend** - November 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ You will be missed great Gaynor from our 804Medical Group SAC---  
USAF--North Dakota! Your legend and greatness will live on in all f  
the lives that you have touched. A friend ,colleague, and a generous  
soul has been lost to us this day.

Thanks for your life that was shared with all of us--and you made us  
better!

I know that I will find your star in the a distant galaxy.

Peace to your family.

Gay and Jim Gilmore

(Jim Gilmore, Capt.USAF, MC)

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**Jim Gilmore - Dallas, TX - Friend** - November 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ I have known Dr. Howell for 45 years. I have always respected him  
for his abilities to care for patients in a loving manner. He delivered  
my daughter Joni Bratcher in 1979. It was a difficult delivery. He  
saved her life. I always thank God for sending him my way. Dr.  
Howell has always shown my parents Bob and Florence Miller  
friendship and care in their later years. Dr. Howell was a wonderful  
Christian man. He will be missed. Barbara and children we are  
praying for you. God bless u in your time of loss.

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**Judy Davis. - Cordova, TN - Friend** - November 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ I had the pleasure of working with Dr. Howell on the Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Service Team, he was always willing and eager to help. Years after I was no longer able to help, he would make sure any time they responded to assist us at a fire or disaster he would come and find me, we would talk forever it seemed. Dr.Howell you will be missed.. Prayers and thoughts to his family.

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**Bryan Coghill - Henderson, KY - November 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM**

SC

“ We absolutely loved having Gaynor and Barb visit us in California a few years ago. We will truly miss this great person. His commitment to other people was an inspiration. Rest in peace Gaynor. Peace to all his family. He is in good hands now.

*Scott Kirby*

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**Scott Kirby - Yorba Linda, CA - cousin - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM**

JK

“ I have so many fond memories of Dr. Howell. He delivered three of my children. He always told me "You love to deliver when UK is playing." When my last child was born, he came to hospital saw it was me and said, "I have to go home and set my VCR Kentucky is playing, I should have known to do that first." He almost didn't make it back. He came in and said don't push. I said I can't. So we both laughed. I said, "No one is recording UK for me." He always had a smile and we would laugh. I missed him so much when he retired.

*My prayers are with his family. I know that he is with God and smiling and laughing. You will see him again. Death is never easy especially the unexpected ones. I know that from experience. Prayers are going up!*

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**Jenny Page - Smith Mills, KY - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM**

CP

“ I have several memories of the great Dr. Gaynor Howell. He deliver both my children and was my OBGYN until he retired. The Howells were our neighbors for several years. One night when I was a teenager I cut my hand on some glass. My mother was extremely upset and called Dr. Howell. He immediately came over and took me to the ER and stitched me up. His wonderful sense of humor and contagious smile will be missed by everyone that knew him. My thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time. God Bless you Dr. Howell! Thanks for touching my life and so many others!

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**Cindy Nation - Henderson , KY - Patient** - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ Prayers to your family. Many fond memories of him seeing patients in ER.

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**Terry Potter, RN** - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Gaynor was a wonderful man and a wonderful Dr. He delivered me and made sure he was there to deliver my two girls. Sending Prayers Barb and the rest of the family. May God give you peace and love during this horrible time.

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**Jennifer DeHaven - Murray, KY - Friend** - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ I loved dr Howell. He was my doctor at 16 and after he retired when to his son both are wonderful. He will be truly missed.

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**Kim Purgeason - Henderson, KY - Patient** - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TK

“Giant of a man in both stature and character. Great church leader. Delivered our daughter Emily. Extended special kindness to a nervous father in the moments anticipating her birth and during the same. If there are cars in heaven, I trust God will have a gas guzzling older model "tank" of a car ready for him to make up for the first cars he "bestowed" on the children when they began driving!

*He will be greatly missed by many.*

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**Tom and Donna Major - Elizabethtown, KY - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM**

TK

“We have always believed God placed Dr. Howell in our lives. He was a caring and compassionate man who brought comfort to a young couple expecting their first child. He always checked in on us, took time for pictures and encouraged us. He delivered our first two children and continues to bless us today through his son Marshall who delivered our third child. We are thankful for their faithful service and love for The Lord. Their counsel and concern for us has always been such a blessing, and for that we give God the glory! Because of Gaynor's faith in Jesus as Lord and savior has now been birthed into heaven. We look forward to seeing our brother in Christ again one day in heaven.

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**Tim & Joyce Burdon - Marion, KY - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM**

JF

“Gaynor was a great man that will be terribly missed. He was a true servant to the church, the community, and his family. There are so many good things that could and will be said of him. To me, one of his greatest accomplishments was being the head of one of the most special and wonderful families I have ever met. My heart aches with you all.

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**Jill Holland Gibson - Henderson, KY - Friend - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM**

KF

“ Our heartfelt prayers are with you all! Our loving heavenly Father is faithful to hold all things together even in our lowest hour. Gaynor was a true friend that we will greatly miss. Please know that we and our church will be remembering you all in prayer as you grieve. May the Lord bless you all with a peace that is beyond understanding!

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**Kenny & Kathy Noblett - Henderson, KY - friend** - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PK

“ Marshall, so sorry for the loss of you father. I will be keeping you and your entire family in my daily prayers.

~Paula

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**Paula Blue - Henderson, KY** - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ I am so sorry to hear about the loss of Dr. Howell. He was a wonderful man and still attended the CME's offered at Methodist Hospital. His smile and humor will be missed by all! Marshall and Ellie....my thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**Kelly Melton Edmondson - Henderson, KY - patient** - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ Always thought lot of Dr. Howell. Thought of him as a true Southern gentleman and enjoyed having him as a Sunday School teacher at First Baptist. Will keep all of you in my prayers.

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**Nancy Klein - Henderson, KY - Friend** - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ *Dr. Howell delivered my daughter Katy in 1988. He was a very caring Dr and a wonderful man and he was loved by many.*

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**Jeannie Sanders - Marion, KY - patient** - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ *I was saddened when I heard about the passing of Dr Howell, he was a great individual and physcian, a great loss to our community. I will be keeping all in my prayers and thoughts through the days to come. God Bless!*

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**Cynthia Chester - Henderson, KY - past patient, past MH employee** - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ *So sorry to heard about this loss! He was my doctor until he retired along with being a kind hearted friend! He will be greatly missed by all! Our thoughts and prayers are with his family. Renea & Rodney Brown*

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**Renea M and Rodney Brown - Dixon, KY - Friend/Former Patient** - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ *So saddened with the news of the loss of Dr. Howell. He was a wonderful individual and Dr! I will keep all of the family in my prayers and thoughts! Sharon M Clark*

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**Sharon M Clark - Clay, KY - Friend/Former Patient** - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ *Your entire family will be in my prayers and thoughts.*

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**Denise Helton - knoxville, TN** - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ *A find man. May b e rest in peace. God has another good helper in Heaven with Him. May the Lord be with the family through these ruff times.*

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**Tom and Donna Stokes - Crestwood, KY - Friends** - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ *Such a wonderful man! I know you the family will miss him, praying for you all. He had the best sense of humor and made you feel at ease during your visit with him. He brought the two greatest blessings in my life in to this world and I am forever grateful. I will always remember him and smile. May God Bless and keep you until you are together again with him in heaven.*

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**Tina Newcom - Marion , KY - Patient** - November 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM