



## Dr. Spiva Gene Richardson

December 13, 1935 - July 16, 2021

Spiva Gene Richardson, D. V. M., was born in Louisville, Mississippi, the only child of Spiva and Ward Dell M. Richardson. He graduated from Louisville High School in 1953 and continued his education at Mississippi State University with a Bachelor of Science degree and at Auburn University with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree.

During his years living and practicing veterinary medicine in Louisville, Dr. Richardson was active in numerous clubs and organizations. As a member of the Rotary Club, he was a former president, he was two-time Paul Harris fellow, and he maintained perfect attendance for 30 years. He was a member of the Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association, Mississippi Cattleman's Association, founding member of Tibby Creek Hunting Club, a Mason, and a clinical preceptor with Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Richardson was also the recipient of the Winston County Farmer of the Year award in 2014, and he received a plaque from the Winston Cattleman's Association in 2019, recognizing his 55 years of commitment and dedicated service to the cattle producers of Winston County.

For 58 years, Dr. Richardson was an active member of First Methodist Church, where he served as president and member of the Administrative Board.

Dr. Richardson enjoyed a variety of hobbies throughout his life, such as wine making, woodworking, hunting, and growing roses. He carved dough bowls, ducks, and rabbits. He designed and carved jewelry from cow and deer horns, as well as making black powder horns that had beautiful carvings of wildlife. He also was an avid hunter, and he enjoyed numerous memorable hunting trips with his son, Craig. For many years, he enjoyed growing hybrid tea roses and sharing bouquets of roses with family and friends. He had over 50 hybrid tea rose plants, and he never wanted anyone else to “mess with his roses.”

When Dr. Richardson was growing up in the early 1950s in Louisville, he and Jimmy and Stanley Hathorn got permission to have one of the first campers at the Neshoba County Fair. During the day, he worked at Double S Angus Farm, and Jimmy and Stanley worked at Triple H Ranch. After working all day, they headed back to the fair every night of fair week.

He loved animals all his life, and he knew he wanted to be a veterinarian from an early age. He truly loved working as a veterinarian throughout his long career.

Dr. Richardson is survived by his wife of almost 62 years, Betty Nowell Richardson and his three children: Mary Margaret (Marti) Richardson of Ridgeland, Mississippi; Craig Richardson and wife Susan of Atlanta, Georgia; and Angela Richardson Yarbrough and husband Danny of Houston, Texas. He is also survived by five grandchildren: Molly Richardson, Reese Richardson, Elizabeth Ann Yarbrough, Daniel Yarbrough, and John Yarbrough.

The family would like to thank the staff of Winston Medical Center for their compassionate care. They would also like to thank Dr. Michael Ard and his staff and Dr. Justin Baker and his staff at Jackson Oncology Associates.

Serving as pallbearers are Dr. H. D. Stokes, J. B. Blanset, Dr. Stephen Hunter,

David Crowson, Danny Ward, James (Burr) Warner, and Jason Warner. Serving as honorary pallbearers are the Louisville High School Class of 1953, Randy Eaves, Gene Windham, Wade Hailey, Michael Dean, Giles Ward, Gendal Reid, and Hubert Hunter.

Memorials may be made to First Methodist Church of Louisville or to the charity of your choice. Dr. Richardson was so blessed by the gift of life and the generosity of others for the past 18 months, and the family asks that you consider making a blood donation.

Visitation will be Monday, July 19 from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at Nowell-Massey Funeral Home in Louisville. Funeral services will be Tuesday, July 20 at First Methodist Church with Bro. Mike Childs officiating. Visitation will also be the day of the service at the church from 10 a.m. until service time. Interment will immediately follow the service in Memorial Cemetery.

Services are under the direction of Nowell Massey Funeral Home, 724 North Columbus Avenue, Louisville, MS. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family by signing the guest register at [www.nowellmasseyfuneralhome.com](http://www.nowellmasseyfuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 19. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Massey Funeral Home  
724 N. Columbus Avenue  
Louisville, MS 39339  
(662) 773-3501  
nowellfuneral@bellsouth.net  
<https://www.masseyfuneralhome.net/>

## Visitation

JUL 20. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Methodist Church  
300 W. Main Street  
Louisville, MS 39339

## Service

JUL 20. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Methodist Church  
300 W. Main Street  
Louisville, MS 39339

## Interment

JUL 20 (CT)

Louisville Memorial Cemetery  
18075 East John C. Stennis Drive  
Louisville, MS 39339



# Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Spiva Gene Richardson*

January 29, 2023 at 06:32 AM



“ *Great man! I spent many days at Triple H Ranch and Dr Richardson always was there when needed for vet work. One of my fondest memories would be pregnancy checking sale cows and Doc would call her open and I would say, you mean too close to call. Great memories.*

*Prayers for all of the family and friends of Dr Richardson.*

*Jack Hedrick*

Jack Hedrick - July 20, 2021 at 09:15 AM



“ *Marti, we are praying for you during this time of loss. Even though I couldn't be there, you are in my thoughts. Hugs!*

*Love,*

*Trina Tanner*

Trina Tanner - July 20, 2021 at 07:52 AM



“ *My family and I have known doctor Richardson since the early 90s. He took care of all of our beloved pets and even came to my dad's funeral. Dr. Richardson holds a special place in our hearts, and I know God gave him a special place in heaven to continue to shine!*

*Janie Weeks and Sherry Weeks-Harper*

Sherry and Janie Weeks - July 20, 2021 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *betty jo, just wanted you to know that i would be thinking about you and your family during this time, mary faye braswell sinclair*

Mary Faye Sinclair - July 19, 2021 at 04:21 PM

JH

“ *Prayers for your family.*

*Jewell Hill*

Jewell Hill - July 19, 2021 at 12:09 PM

AG

“ *To Doc's family: He was such a special man to me. I always came to him with SO many animals over the years. He never sugar coated any info regarding their situations. I respected him so much. I'll always remember our talks, him showing me his latest carving or creation, and his laughs when he'd get tickled at me. We spoke pretty upfront with each other. He will truly be missed. May God comfort all of you during this time. Love and prayers, Angie Griffin*

Angie Griffin - July 19, 2021 at 10:59 AM



“ *White Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Spiva Gene Richardson.*



July 18, 2021 at 03:47 PM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Dr. Spiva Gene Richardson.



July 18, 2021 at 02:53 PM



“ Lavender & White Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Spiva Gene Richardson.



July 18, 2021 at 10:57 AM



“ White Sympathy Baskets was purchased for the family of Dr. Spiva Gene Richardson.



July 17, 2021 at 07:01 PM



“ Being new to Mississippi I was blessed to find Dr. Richardson. He cared for all my “four-legged children” and always showed much compassion for my pet losses and concerns. He would always rush to our aid and took time to listen to my concerns and answer any questions. He’s a role model to young veterinarians coming into the industry as he truly loved what he did and cared about the people and animals he worked with.

**Molly Culwell** - July 17, 2021 at 02:52 PM

PB

“ *Dr. Spiva had a special love for God, animals, people and nature. The way he lived his life speaks volumes of his service to others. I am so truly blessed to have known Dr. Spiva. My prayers are with Betty and the family.*

---

**Paula Blanton** - July 17, 2021 at 12:26 PM

MS

*Betty and I really enjoyed taking our dogs to him. We always visited with Spiva Gene and Betty. He also came to our house and treated our dogs and cats. He also came to the house when it was time for Rocky to go to Rainbow Heaven. Both of them were very good friends. May God comfort your family*

---

**Mary Shaw** - July 19, 2021 at 12:14 AM