



# IN TRIBUTE TO OUR PARTNER & FRIEND RONALD N. WILLIAMS, MD

October 2, 1942 – October 28, 2017

While there is never a good day to leave behind your loved ones on your journey to the afterlife, the world's most meticulous planner could not have selected a more appropriate day to say goodbye. He left us on the very morning of his annual "Ferndale Creek" party that he had hosted for years to entertain hundreds of loving family and friends.

If you enter a Cajun restaurant in Heaven's version of the south Louisiana bayou and find yourself sitting next to a reserved, soft-spoken southern gentleman dining on redfish, you have likely found our recently departed, dear friend.

Further clues that you have met up with "the doc," as he is affectionately called by his life-long friends from Sheridan: The quiet, unassuming man is intensely studying Theodore Roosevelt's "Naval War of 1812" or laughing while poring through the hilarious antics of Ignatius J. Reilly in John Kennedy Toole's "Confederacy of Dunces." The table is loaded with prime selections from his idyllic, picturesque "Library by the Creek," of treatises and historical fictions ranging from the classics to local novels by Donald Harington,



**If you are lucky enough to have ever had Ron in your life, then you will have known:**

- One of Arkansas' most respected, revered, and trusted neurological surgeons, and for that matter, physicians, of all times, having cared for literally tens of thousands of grateful patients from across our state and nation over the span of 50 years.
- A dedicated and loving father, husband, friend and a man kind and considerate to everyone he met or even strangers that he passed in the hallway.
- An avid reader, historian, traveler, and gastronome with an affinity for authentic Cajun cuisine and a lover of fishing in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska.
- A thin, unassuming southern gentleman who is a brilliant bibliophile and lettered scholar of infinite subjects, yet so humble that you will never find anyone who had anything but the highest love and respect for him.
- A trusted mentor, unparalleled in his steadfast dedication and unconditional loyalty to those of us lucky enough to be his friend. If you were blessed enough to have become one of the "friends of Ron," you knew you had the best friend you could ever have on earth or in Heaven to come.

including "Lightning Bug," featuring characters in the mythical Ozark town of Stay More. The soft-spoken man, clad in khakis and a button-down, appears a bit lost without his inseparable, devoted and loving wife, Mickey, by his side.

Ron, this state, your family, and your friends will always be indebted to you, respect you, cherish you, love you, and admire you for who you were and what you stood for—a great man, a great person, and the best and most loyal, caring friend anyone could ever hope to have! I was truly honored and blessed to be asked to join the practice of Ron Williams and Ray Jouett in 1992. Out of thankful and grateful respect for giving me such a great opportunity to join the giants of our field and to pay homage to their numerous contributions to the neurological world, we renamed our practice "Legacy Spine and Neurological Specialists" upon their retirement. It is our mission to carry forward the torch they lit for the people of Arkansas for many years to come! I will always strive to lead our team in a way that makes you look down on us with an approving smile, knowing we are fulfilling your Legacy!

*"And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count, it's the life in your years." –ABRAHAM LINCOLN*

*Nobody I have known has done a better job of living out Lincoln's quote. We are eternally grateful and blessed to have had you in our lives. L'chaim, my old friend! May God bless you and keep you for eternity!*

— Scott Schlesinger, MD, Legacy Spine & Neurological Specialists —