



Mark David Oliver

May 10, 1964 - September 25, 2023

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance..." Ecclesiastes 3:1-4

Mark David Oliver was a Christ-follower, proud father, and gifted neurosurgeon. He was surrounded by family and loved ones when he crossed over to be with his Lord on Monday, September 25, 2023, after a short illness.

Born in Orange, Texas on May 10, 1964, he was the only child of William Oliver and Sherry Elmes. He graduated from Opelika High School in 1982 and attended nearby Auburn University where he graduated in 1986. He went on to earn his medical degree at the University of Alabama at Birmingham's School of Medicine in 1990, and completed his neurosurgery residency at Tampa General Hospital in 1998. Shortly thereafter, he and his small family moved to Ocala where he began his surgical practice at Ocala Neurosurgical Center.

Through the years Mark built an amazing career, becoming well known for his extraordinary surgical and clinical skills. But beyond that, he cared deeply for the well-being of his patients. He believed being a physician was a gift from God and he used it as a ministry to others. Over the years, many have confirmed he was not a "typical physician".

Although he lived in Ocala, in many ways he was never far from his beloved University. An avid Auburn Tigers fan, he travelled to both home and away games with family and friends. Mark became a "volunteer" consultant with the Auburn athletics medical team and head coach, and considered becoming a member of the staff after retirement. Even though he graduated from UAB's medical school, his love for all things Auburn was obvious to all.

However, his most significant achievement was his family. Mark is survived by his three daughters: Jessica Overfelt (Matthew), Samantha Oliver, and Malia Oliver; two sons Andrew Oliver and Carson Oliver; three beautiful grandchildren Evelyn Overfelt, Wilson Overfelt, and Marli Brown; as well as Delano Christie who joined the Oliver family in 2013. He is also survived by Ashley Morris, his father William Oliver (Janet), and stepfather Chuck Elmes; and is pre-deceased by his mother, Sherry Elmes.

Mark will be missed by the many friends, healthcare professionals, patients, and business acquaintances that he garnered over the years, but mostly by his family who knows he now rests in peace with his Savior.

A celebration of life service will be held at Church @ The Springs on Saturday, October 7th at 11:00 am. There will also be a celebration of life gathering at Resting Pulse Brewing Company in Opelika, Alabama on Saturday, November 4th at 2:00 pm.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT 1. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Roberts of Ocala Downtown Chapel
606 SW 2nd AVE
Ocala , FL 34471

Celebration of Life

OCT 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

Church @ The Springs
5424 SE 58th Ave
Ocala, FL 34480-7707
(352) 624-0545

Tribute Wall

LC

“ I worked for Dr Oliver for 7 years and I learned so much for him. He was a fabulous doctor who truly cared for his patients. We attended several of our patients funerals together. What doctor have you ever heard of that goes to their patients' funerals? I am truly heartbroken. He was what all doctors should strive to be like, truly. A great loss to friends and family and he will be missed.
Lyndi Farrar Corcoran

Lyndi Corcoran - November 08, 2025 at 02:51 AM

EL

“ I worked with Dr. Oliver from 2011-2021 in the OR. He was one of the easiest surgeons to talk to and also one of the funniest. Before a case, I'd look over to see him perched on a stool, howling at a funny YouTube video. Or during cases, when certain songs would come on, he'd either sing or hum to them, ask who the artist was, or come up with some witty way to mention the artist. He'd ask the OR staff about their kids or spouses or whatever else; he always found a way to make conversation. He also talked a lot about his family; he was so proud of his children and he'd frequently give us updates about whatever was going on in their lives.
I'll never pretend to understand why it seems that good people are taken too early, but I guess we're not meant to. Dr. Oliver was definitely one of the good ones and his departure has certainly left Ocala a much duller place.
To all of his family: I am so incredibly sorry for your loss. I hope you find comfort and peace in all of the great memories you have.

Elaine - October 16, 2023 at 03:10 PM



“ I worked with Dr Oliver at ONC when he first came to Ocala for over a decade. We had some great times at the office. We always had our SEC football to comment on. Me being a Alabama fan and of course Auburn fan for him. I remember him pushing a Publix grocery cart 🛒 into me and a loud “War Eagle” to follow. He was also an awesome boss to my friend Erika his surgery scheduler. I know when they saw each other in Heaven they gave each other a huge hug. He’ll be missed. Prayers to the family for comfort.

Sandy Man,ey - October 07, 2023 at 08:37 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mark David Oliver.



October 06, 2023 at 02:18 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mark David Oliver.



October 05, 2023 at 11:15 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mark David Oliver.



October 04, 2023 at 08:36 AM

SY

“ Dr. Oliver performed brain surgery on me in August of 1998. I am so incredibly thankful for a excellent brain surgery and the prayers he held for me and my family!!!! I will always believe He is the BEST neurosurgeon ever!!! I love you and your family!!!! Stephanie (Cooke)Yeager

Stephanie yeager - October 04, 2023 at 02:30 AM

SH

“ My favorite memory of Mark Oliver was at my wedding to my late husband almost 23 years ago when he agreed to be Larry’s Best Man. He had a great sense of humor & decided that putting the ring in a box of Cracker Jacks would be great fun. He succeeded! I still smile when I recall him pretending he didn’t know where the ring was as each of the groomsmen passed the box as each dumped a little on the floor as it went. Then when Mark got the box he pulled out the “toy” surprise that contained my ring. I have many fond memories, but that is my favorite. He will be greatly missed here on earth, but He is rejoicing with his Savior now. I’m sure Larry was waiting to greet him & excitedly tell him about all the wonders of Heaven. Rest in Peace Mark, your worshipping at the feet of Jesus now.



Sherri Hunt - October 03, 2023 at 09:53 PM

JK

“ I just want to say that he performed surgery on my back about 6 months ago. Before and after surgery care has been excellent. I will miss his professionalism before and after the surgery. In the hospital before my surgery we were laughing and cutting up which made me feel better. His staff has been a great bunch of people. Dr. Oliver you will be missed. Thank you

James Ketner - October 03, 2023 at 05:55 PM

DB

“Mark Oliver was a great colleague, mentor, and friend to me. Though we never hangout outside of work we always talked about it. We spent most of our time together working every Tuesday, Thursday, and sometimes on call, since 2017.

In the beginning, I was new to a very talented group of people that aided the Ocala Neurosurgical group in surgery. It was back in the good old days where I met Dr. Oliver. When he meet me for the first time he would ask questions about me and engage in a heart felt conversation that made you laugh, smile(behind the mask), and feel a connection to him. With long days spent working shoulder to shoulder with Dr. Oliver, I can hands down say there was never a dull moment. From playing games to see what time he walk into his room(OR 1) and start his day. He would always turn music on before he started his cases. He would ask “Who is this playing on the radio?” and making jokes about the band or song playing on the radio... for example if AC/DC was on the radio he would look at me dead in the face, turn his head sideways and ask “What is the current that runs in the walls?” I would answer “AC(alternating current)” then he would go on and ask me “Oh and what is the current that runs in your truck?” I would reply “DC(direct current)” and then start laughing and I would reply “I see what you did there.” and the surgical staff would look at each other and just laugh. That was just one of the many ways he would make the whole day better while doing complex open spine surgery.

As the years went on we had inside jokes and funny stories that we would tell each other. I can say this enough, he was such a great person and surgeon to work with. He was so smart and had a memory like elephant. He could remember everything except to wear a belt, his keys would always sag his pants down and he would always pick them back up with a little shimmy.

To many he was so much more! You will be missed Dr. Oliver. I just picture you in a better place now with Tupac and Biggie looking down on all of us knowing one day we will meet again. Rest in

peace Dr. Oliver till we meet again.

Devan Bailey - October 03, 2023 at 03:42 PM

DB

“*I have know Dr. Oliver since he first came to Ocala about 25 years ago. I always found him to be very kind and respectful who treated my ED staff in the same manner.I will miss his friendship but know he is with the Father.I pray for all his family and friends for their loss.*”

Dr Joel Brooks - October 01, 2023 at 10:10 AM

DA

“*I worked with Dr.Oliver in surgery for 8 years! It was always a great day with him! I'm not going to be able to text him a Georgia meme during the Georgia Alabama games anymore! He truly cared about his patients and staff. When I was going through cancer treatments a couple of years back he would call/text me and ask if I was doing ok and if I needed anything. He said "Now Dana, I care about you and I will be praying for you. Do not hesitate to call me if you need anything and I mean anything!" My heart is truly sad.*

Dana - September 30, 2023 at 12:46 PM

SW

“*I worked with Dr. Oliver in the OR for 5 years. He was the most friendly and fun loving surgeon. I truly enjoyed his jokes and fun game with the songs on the radio with long cases. He also was there for me in a crazy time when my father came in with a stroke. I was truly blessed to have had him in my life. He will be missed.*

Sarah Wubbena - September 30, 2023 at 09:30 AM