



Dr. Alice C. Ferdinand

May 12, 1915 - April 14, 2017

Dr. Alice C. Ferdinand, 101, of East Peoria, passed away peacefully at her home at 6:01 pm Friday, April 14, 2017.

She was born May 12, 1915 in Roosevelt, OK to Samuel and Goldie Bozman Cooper. She married Howard Ferdinand in Crown Pointe, IN on June 7, 1941. He preceded her in death on April 6, 2000. She was also preceded in death by her parents; son, Tim in 2008; five brothers, and two sisters.

Surviving are her son, Jed (Anita) Ferdinand; three grandsons, James, Matthew and Zachary; great-grandson, Grayson; and sister, Edith "Midget" Stillson.

Dr. Ferdinand was a pediatrician having her own practice in Peoria for over 50 years before retiring. Over the years she enjoyed gardening, painting, and bird watching.

Dr. Ferdinand was also a passionate conservationist, in 1973 she joined together with 20 other like-minded individuals to purchase what would become Marshall's Point in Door County Wisconsin saving over 1000 acres of land from development and ensuring the land remained unspoiled.

Dr. Ferdinand's other passions, of course, were children and their parents. She mixed kindness and tough love to bring out the best in children and their parents. Long before Nike came up with their slogan, when a nervous parent complained about toilet training their toddler, Dr. Ferdinand would say "Well just do it."

Of course Alice enjoyed sports, she was an avid fan of the Oklahoma Sooner

football team, and last year she finally got to see her beloved Cubs win it all. Her late husband, Howie, could be heard clapping when it happened. Or maybe that was just thunder.

Dr. Ferdinand would say she led a good life, but what she really did was give others the patience, encouragement, and self-confidence to make their lives and their families lives better. God bless her.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the Children's Hospital of Illinois. Cremation rites have been accorded. Family will receive friends from 4 to 6 pm Friday, April 21, 2017 at Deiters Funeral Home and Crematory in Washington. Her memorial service will be at 1:30 pm Saturday, April 22 at the funeral home with Rev. Dr. Forrest Krummel officiating.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **21**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Deiters Funeral Home & Crematory - Washington
2075 Washington Road
Washington, IL 61571
(309) 745-5999

Memorial Service

APR **22**. 1:30 PM (CT)

Deiters Funeral Home & Crematory - Washington
2075 Washington Road
Washington, IL 61571
(309) 745-5999

Tribute Wall



“ Deiters Funeral Home & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. Alice C. Ferdinand



Deiters Funeral Home & Crematory - April 21, 2017 at 05:46 PM

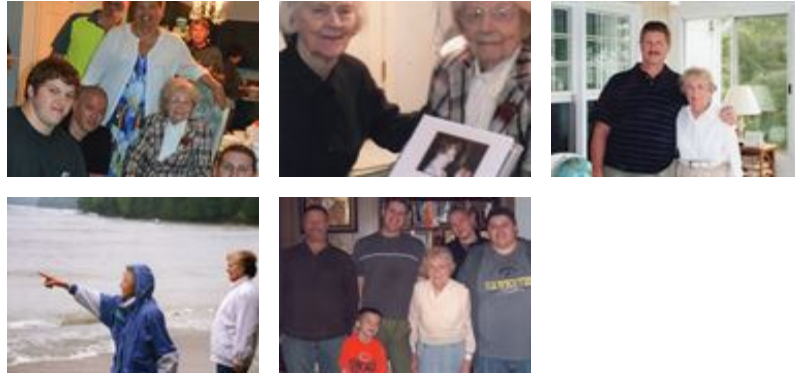
DG

“ I was saddened to see Dr. Ferdinand's passing. She was my pediatrician and because of her and her consultation with doctors at Children's Memorial in Chicago, they saved my life. She has always held a very special place in my heart. My condolences to her family for your loss. She was a very special lady. I hope it helps ease your loss knowing how many people she took care of and how many loved her. She was so dedicated to her patients and their families. She was one of a kind!

Deborah Griffin - April 26, 2017 at 10:52 AM



“ 29 files added to the album Life Tributes



Deiters Funeral Home & Crematory - April 20, 2017 at 05:18 PM



“ *Dr. Ferdinand was my boys Doctor she was a special Doctor & person. With her nurse & friend Maxine by her side she cared for & treated many children throughout her years in practice. She not only cared for the children she was a teacher & guiding light to us parents also. Myself & my sons were Blessed to have her in our lives. When it came time for her to retire, she gave us one more gift. She left us in the capable hands of Dr. Amy Christinson. Take you for Everything! Rest In Peace Dr. Ferdinand!*

Gloria Reed - April 19, 2017 at 10:14 PM



“ *She was the greatest. As a divorced mom raising two small boys, I relied on her expertise for the best for my children. I always told others that if it wasn't for the Lord and Dr. Ferdinand, I wouldn't have made it. We personally shared a love for the beautiful things in life. Always remembered - Always missed.*

Judy Penn - April 19, 2017 at 12:00 PM

AH

“ I loved Dr. Ferdinand. She taught me something every time we saw her. She told me she loved to bet other doctors they could not guess how large her largest patient was. She always won. He was our son. 6'6,"size 17 shoe. When she told my boys she was retiring, they were a little teary. In her special way, she said , "Boys, you ought to be happy for me. I'm retiring, I'm not dying." She called me in January when I was 9 1/2 months pregnant and had two children with chickenpox. We chatted like old girl friends. She said she thought I could use some adult conversation. I appreciated that so much. It was just what I needed.

Ann Hartman - April 17, 2017 at 03:09 PM

KA

“ Dr. Ferdinand was one of most special people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. She was my pediatrician when I was a child, some 66 years ago, and she help my husband and I raise our son and daughter. She was indeed the final word in how we took care of our children. I always knew whatever she recommended would work. After my son flipped off his diaper changing table, I called and she spoke to me with care and authority. Nothing was broken, but he wanted to go to sleep. I was terrified, she very calmly assured me that if I put him down and he went to sleep he would wake up within a few moments. I did as she said and he laid down closed his eyes and almost immediately he woke up. There are too many stories that I am sure all of her patients and their parents could share about this wonderful woman. She was truly a very special person, and to this day my children and I reminisce about her caring and supportive nature.

Kathy - April 16, 2017 at 07:43 PM

BJ

Dr. Ferdinand helped us raise three children. She always was caring and thoughtful. Couldn't have gotten through the first few years without her help. She was an amazing doctor and wonderful person.

Betty and Del Jones - April 16, 2017 at 09:00 PM

MM

I STILL think of Dr. F when driving on Was Memorial past her office. She doctored our family and then several of my own children. No chance of us forgetting her as she [and Miss Graham] was a part of our lives!

Marsha Miller Markas - April 16, 2017 at 09:32 PM

PG

My oldest 2 kids were patients of Dr. Ferdinand's from the day they were born! She always took her time when they had their checkups and was there for us thru sicknesses. She always gave the best advice! Thank you Dr.F for guiding me as a first time mother and all the great advice!! My children have turned out pretty great!! Rest in Peace to a beautiful soul!!

Patsy Greuter - April 17, 2017 at 06:59 AM

EP

My family and I were very sorry to hear of the passing of Dr Ferdinand, which is what she always was to me. My 3 brothers, my sister and I were among her early patients; then when I got married and had 2 daughters of my own, there was no doubt in my mind that Dr Ferdinand would care for them also. Our younger daughter was able to see Dr Ferdinand for her high school physical, just before Dr F retired. She was always practical, matter of fact, and professional. Her staff was caring and responsive at all visits, always able to work in a sick or injured child. At a time when many pediatricians had an answering service for after hours, Dr Ferdinand's personal phone number was always known to HER parents. I can't say that I enjoyed going to the doctor (most kids don't), but I have always appreciated the caring and professional treatment she gave us.

Eran Pierce - April 18, 2017 at 09:38 PM

KW

Saddened to hear of her death, but oh, so grateful to have had her as a Dr. first, and then colleague, when I became a nurse. Dr. Ferdinand came to my mothers funeral and said to me, "I admired your mother and her attention to her 4 girls. She was a no nonsense person, very practical and common sense." I was first surprised that she came to the visitation and, second, that she remembered us. What an amazing talent she had, and much missing from this current medical world. Alice and Maxine were quite a team...and the signature low worn glasses were/are classic. I can still see her look up head tilted and stern faced as she appraised you through those lenses. Thanking God for her life and its intersection with ours. Kath Wagner

kathy wagner - April 19, 2017 at 06:54 AM

KW

Adding to the above...I now live in Door County, Sister Bay, and know well the conservation efforts of many to preserve our beautiful land. I did not know of her being one of the preservationists of Marshall's Point. A gift of foresight to be certain.

kathy wagner - April 19, 2017 at 06:59 AM

LN

Dr. Ferdinand was our 3 boys pediatrician - Her staff (Miss Graham and Sharon) were top notch. They helped me through so many crisis. She was so down-to-earth and very caring. The next morning after we brought our first born home from the hospital Sharon (per Dr. orders) called me to see how our first night home was. I recall her asking the boys "Did you take your vitamin today?" And "did you play outside today?". she will be missed very much. God bless her. Linda Nieu Kirk

Linda Nieu Kirk - April 21, 2017 at 01:07 PM

NS

Dr. Ferdinand was my older son's doctor when he was born. Joe weighed 8lbs 15 1/2 oz. When my second son was born...Benji weighed 9lbs 3 oz. She came to the door after Benji was born and just leaned on the door post and said 'I don't know how you do it but you really know make beautiful babies!' I felt that was one of her highest compliments! Thank you, Dr. Ferdinand for your years of pediatric care.

Nancy K Short - June 03, 2017 at 07:46 PM