



Frederick L. Austin, Jr., M.D.

September 25, 2024

Frederick L. Austin, Jr., M.D., 95, of Pittsfield, MA, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on Wednesday, September 25, 2024. Born in Melrose, MA, he was the son of the late Frederick and Caroline Austin. He graduated from Tufts University and Tufts University School of Medicine.

Dr. Austin was predeceased by his beloved wife of 62 years, Ruth Austin, who served dutifully by his side as a military spouse. He was also predeceased by his dear sister Muriel Austin.

Dr. Austin served honorably in the United States Navy for 23 years as a Flight Surgeon, Chief of Ophthalmology, and instructor of Ophthalmology residents. He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, among other medals and commendations, and retired as a Navy Captain.

Dr. Austin continued his medical career by operating a private practice in Pittsfield, and as a physician at Berkshire Medical Center and Hillcrest Hospital.

Among his hobbies and passions, he loved animals; he was a musician, mastering piano, violin, and banjo; he enjoyed photography, hiking the Berkshire mountains, classic movies, Red Sox, Patriots, and traveling the world. Dr. Austin and his wife were active members of South Congregational

Church since 1974, and quiet philanthropists of numerous causes and charities.

Dr. Austin is survived by his devoted daughters, Rebecca Thacker (Jeffrey), Laurel Austin, Melissa Haddick (David), Susan Kirk (Jeffrey), and “adopted” daughter Katya Merrill (James). He leaves behind his beloved grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and extended family.

He cherished many dear friends and devoted caregivers.

Funeral Notice:

Funeral services with full military honors for Dr. Frederick L. Austin, Jr., will be on Wednesday, October 2, 2024, at 2pm at Dwyer Funeral Home, 220 East St, Pittsfield MA 01201. To view an livestream of this service, please visit <https://event.forgetmenotceremonies.com/ceremony/?c=e9c1c287-5a69-4705-990f-48704996b760>

All are also welcome to calling hours at the funeral home directly prior to the service, from 12pm to 2pm. A private burial will be held at Rural Cemetery in Worcester.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Dr. Austin’s memory can be made to the American Heart Association or Berkshire Humane Society.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 2. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Dwyer -Wellington Family Funeral Home - Pittsfield
220 East St.
Pittsfield, MA 01201
(413) 445-4064
info@dwyerfuneral.com
<https://www.dwyerfuneral.com/>

Service

OCT 2. 2:00 PM (ET)

Dwyer -Wellington Family Funeral Home - Pittsfield
220 East St.
Pittsfield, MA 01201
(413) 445-4064
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<https://www.dwyerfuneral.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ the Merrill Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frederick L. Austin, Jr., M.D..

the Merrill Family - September 30, 2024 at 09:36 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Frederick L. Austin, Jr., M.D..



September 30, 2024 at 09:36 PM



“ Community Initiatives Staff purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Frederick L. Austin, Jr., M.D..



Community Initiatives Staff - September 30, 2024 at 01:11 AM



“ Community Initiatives Staff planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frederick L. Austin, Jr., M.D..

Community Initiatives Staff - September 30, 2024 at 01:11 AM