



Dr. Davis W. Ellis

August 21, 1924 - February 17, 2016

Davis W. Ellis M.D., 91, a longtime Rushville resident, passed away Wednesday, February 17, 2016 in Rush Memorial Hospital. Dr. Ellis was born in Marion, IN on August 21, 1924 to the late Davis W., Sr. and Ellen E. (Erdmann) Ellis. He was a 1942 graduate of New Trier High School in Winnetka, IL. Dr. Ellis served in the U.S. Army A.S.T.P. Corp. from 1944-1946 and was a Regimental surgeon for the 151st Regimental Division of the Indiana National Guard from 1940-1950. He graduated from Indiana University Medical School in 1947. Dr. Ellis served his internship at St. Vincent Hospital and his externship at St. Frances Hospital in Indianapolis. After one year of practice with Eugene Boggs M.D. in Indianapolis he came to Rushville in August of 1949 to begin his family practice. He married Eleanor Ann (Petty) Dunn Ellis on March 25, 1985 and she survives.

After retirement from private practice in 1985, Dr. Ellis became the administrator for the Indiana State Medicaid program until his retirement in 1994. He then served as the Rush County Health Officer from 1994-2009. He founded the National Health Services Corporation in Rush County which helped to recruit five physicians to the community. Dr. Ellis was Chief of Staff at Rush Memorial Hospital for several years, a trustee for the Indiana State Medical Association 6th District for eight years, a longtime member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church where he served in many capacities, one of which was co-chair of the building of the education building. He was a member of the Rushville Phoenix Lodge #62 F&AM, the Scottish Rite in

Indianapolis, Rushville Rotary for over 30 years and a member of the Rushville B.P.O.E. #1307. Dr. Ellis was a founder of the J Cee's and active in the Rushville Chamber of Commerce. In his spare time, Dr. Ellis enjoyed working in his yard & flower beds. His true passion was sailing!

In addition to his wife, Eleanor, of Rushville, Dr. Ellis is survived by sons, Joseph M. Ellis and wife Leslie of Bargersville, IN, Richard S. Ellis and wife Deena of Littleton, CO, stepsons, Bradley James Dunn and Karen Petrosky of Cincinnati, OH, Phillip Martin Dunn and wife Leslie of Cayce, SC, daughters, Debra Sue and husband Kent Fischvogt DDS of Columbus, IN, Lisa L. and husband Mark Koon of Kokomo, IN, step daughter, Nitsa and husband Jerry Cane of Fishers, IN, a sister, JoAnn Smullen & husband Richard of Santa Inez, CA, grandchildren, Scott & Amanda Ellis, Mark & Gina Ellis, Richard Davis Ellis, Robert Ellis, Michael Ellis, Kirsten (Ian) Russell, Derrick (Jenny) Bell and Mathew (Danelle) Bell, step grandchildren, Jonathan & Andrew James Dunn & Olivia Marilyn and Dennis Aaron Cane, 10 great grandchildren also survive. Dr. Ellis was preceded in death by his parents, a sister, Martha Ellen Akers & a grandson, Joseph Ellis.

A memorial service will be held at 1 PM Saturday, February 20, 2016 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 426 N. Morgan St. in Rushville. Friends are welcome to visit at the church from 10 AM until time of service on Saturday. Pastor Jan Dimick will preside and private entombment will take place in East Hill Shrine Mausoleum.

Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB **20**. 1:00 PM (ET)

St Paul's United Methodist Church
426 N Morgan St
Rushville, IN 46173-1609
(765) 932-3777

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Davis W. Ellis*

January 28, 2023 at 12:19 PM



“ *Doctor Ellis brought me and my brother into the world. My mother says he was the best Doctor she ever had. He will be truly missed. R.I.P. Daniel Petty... Showlow, Arizona.*

Daniel Petty - August 28, 2018 at 05:29 PM



“ *I always enjoyed the time spent with Dave and Eleanor although we did not get to see them often. I admired Dave for all he accomplished during his life and I feel fortunate to have become a part of their extended family. I'm sorry that I was not able to spend more time with Dave and hear more of his stories. I am very sorry about Dave's passing.*

*Gary Owen
Stockbridge, GA*

Gary Owen - March 08, 2016 at 08:23 AM



“ *Sorry for your loss. I still remember Dave making house calls when we needed him as kids. His care and family friendship will be truly missed. He is one of Rush County's jewels. All our best to the entire family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. God Bless, Dan Moster and Family*



Dan Moster - February 20, 2016 at 03:17 PM

RL

“ I have great memories of Dr. Ellis. Not only did he bring me into this world and take care of all of my childhood illnesses but he diagnosed my type 1 diabetes in October 1971. I almost died from ketoacidosis but Dr Ellis stayed up all night figuring out what was wrong with me and starting me on an insulin infusion. He was my friend. So loving. So compassionate. Ruth Jaynes Lee of Frankfort KY

Ruth Lee - February 19, 2016 at 09:17 PM



“ Comments from the RHS/RCHS Alumni
Facebook Group



Our family doctor for about 30 years. - Tom Snyder

Condolences .. I remember Debbie and Rick. - Sally Marie Sizemore

Wonderful person... - Libby Eaton-Bistro

Such a wonderful man. - Bonnie Miller

*Sad news! He was a great man and delivered my daughter Rachel!
- Marlene (Brett) McGowan*

Delivered me! - Jane (Berkemeier) Howard

*Such a wonderful man! Spent lots of time with family in high school!
- Jane Holder Davis*

He delivered my son William Paul Sweet Jr. - Linda Sweet

*I remember him as such a kind person. Condolences to the family. –
Carolyn(Moore) Miccichi*

Judy Alexander Bechtold Doc Ellis was a kind man, our trusted family doctor and family friend. Lake Douglas Michigan I sailed for first time as I helped babysit Joe, Debbie, Lisa, and Rick during my teen years' summer vacation with them. Happy memories and love to his family. - Judy Alexander Bechtold

*He was our neighbor and used to mow his yard when I was a teen.
RIP Doc Ellis. - Ben Webb*

He was our Dr. too! RIP Dr. Ellis - Hollis Hunsinger Brazier

Mother thought he was like a movie star. - Richard Merriman

Dr. Ellis brought me into the world. Dr. Norris was my doctor after that remember when they came to the house to treat you? I do. – Michael Sharpe

The world lost a great man. - Shelley Lanter

Delivered my babies. ..great man - Penny (Bogard) Wesling

He could stitch up a wound like a dream. no matter how long I worked at the hospital with him he called me "Miss Emme" - Dorie Byers

He is the only Dr. I ever saw make a house call, my younger sister had rheumatic fever and he came to our house and checked on her. RIP Doctor Ellis. - Larry F Frank

He was super he delivered me and my oldest daughter. - Polly Jean Beckner-Sturgeon

My Condolences, Dr. Ellis delivered me, Janet Mauzy his nurse. Wonderful people. - Randy Hunsinger

God bless and hugs to Ellis family. - Myra Alexander Pavey

While Dr. Ellis was not our family Doctor he was a kind hearted man and a true gentleman. He will be missed by his family and his many friends! - Ron Cameron

Such a sweet, wonderful man and wonderful Doctor!!!! Delivered our children. You NEVER saw him without a smile!!!! His demeanor as a dr isn't taught in med school. That was just him!!!! The world lost a great human being!!!! Prayers to Ellie and all the family!!! - Deloris (Eckel) Hickman

What a great Doctor and person. His humor, leadership, and care

for others will be missed in Rush County. Our condolences to the Ellis family. - Gerald W. Mohr

He delivered me and brother and sister. My grandma lived right across the street, he made many trips across 11th street to check on her. RIP Dr. Ellis. - Sandy Singleton

Be was a very good doctor.. He was very loved.. There was also Dr. Nutter and Dr. Worth. Dr. Worth delivered me and my brother, and my oldest child. He made house calls too.. I think all of them did back then.. Dr. Nutter delivered my husband.. Dr. Ellis was very highly respected by the community as well as his colleagues. So sorry to read of his passing. My thoughts to Lisa.. - Gloria Dunaway Long

Dr. Ellis delivered me as he did all my sisters. My mom always told me he said when I was born good thing she is a girl she can cover those ears with hair. LOL I still cover those big ears to this day. God bless you and your family Dr. Ellis you were one of a kind, May you rest in peace! - Cynthia Ray Myers

He delivered me and several of my siblings! - Maribeth Marshall-Haulter

Awww, so very sorry to hear this. his older 2 kids were Joe (class of either 65 or 66) and Debbie (class of 67). He was a wonderful man....sympathies to the wonderful family. - Marsha Mings

He delivered my daughter in 1975, this man was the epitomy of class, he was such a dignified man and will be missed by many. Prayers to the Ellis family thru this time. - Sue Cory Bowers

Greg Raike - February 19, 2016 at 04:01 PM



“ Comments from the RHS/RCHS Alumni
Facebook Group #2



He was most special and I will miss him. Over the decades we exchanged letters and I treasure each and every one. He was my doctor when I was only 9 years old. After Tom and I married and moved to Indy I wanted to come "home" and stay with my parents so he could deliver our sons and he did. Lots of wonderful memories. Rest in peace dear friend. Thoughts and prayers to the family. - Mary Floyd

Delivered Doug in 1973. - Jeanne Rudman Montgomery

My condolences to the family. Dr. Ellis delivered me and was our family doctor my whole time growing up. He was a great man!! - Carol Dyer Coon

I remember him well. - Deb Dice

Doc Ellis delivered both brother Rob and me, too. He was our family physician, counselor, advisor, consoler, and friend... He was the first in a long and impressive line of those who spanked my butt at one time or another. Office visits were always an event. Many fond memories of Janet Mauzy, the most sanitary, proper, and vivacious nurse ever created, and Ruthanna Riebsomer's quick wit as the office commander in chief. I remember Mom being just livid once when he told her that both Robbie & I seemed to be "accident prone", which we most certainly were. "Well, they ARE farm boys, you know!"... I mean, his words were THE authority because she worshiped the ground he walked on, and she was truly hurt. Rush Count owes Dave Ellis and Frank Green both so much for their leadership and service both publicly, and as humanitarian citizens, neighbors, and friends. - Joe Kimmell

Dr. Ellis delivered all 4 of us and even came to our house out by Homer when we were all sick with Hepatitis. Condolences to the

family. - Kimberly Goddard Wilson

Dr. Ellis delivered me in 1960. What a great man! He was our family doctor for years and we also attended St Paul's Methodist along with his family through the years. Dr. Ellis delivered me in 1960. What a great man! - John Byrne

Well Doc was responsible for delivering 5 of 7 my mothers kids and then taking care of all of us until we left home. He took care of our mother as well until she became so sick she needed a specialist. What a GREAT testament to mankind and asset to our community. Farewell Doc, you will be missed by the Richards family. - Stan Richards

A great man in Rushville history. I always felt like he was larger than life. - Barbara Jones Peterson

He delivered my son as a favor to my mom.. back in 80....she loved working with him.... - Janet Cain

I have known a lot of people in my life but Dr. Ellis was one of the greatest. He was a great doctor and delivered tons of babies (including me!!!), and took great care of many families in our community. He also was very active in the community after retirement. It has been great today reading Facebook and seeing all of the nice comments about how he helped people all of his life. - John Byrne

So kind. Sweet memories of him. Condolences to the family. - Deborah Rigsbee Milam

He was our family doctor. He delivered all of us except 3. Two sisters were born in Shelbyville where my parents lived before moving to Rushville and I was delivered by Dr. Norris because Dr. Ellis was on vacation. - Rita Anderson

Super guy and GREAT doctor..I never had another doctor until I

moved away...he will be missed..condolences to the family. - Phil Bosse

So sorry read that he past. Such a good, kind, family man. - Donna McMullen

What a wonderful man. Sending condolences! - Barb Hunsinger Frazee

Dr. Ellis was a good doctor. He was my doctor, very nice guy. I am sorry for their loss. I will prayer for his family. - Cindy (Keith) Brady

Condolences to the family, a former patient many years ago. - Pam Brenneman

Very nice man and Dr. with a terrific bedside manner. Made several house calls for my family. May God Bless. - Dave Clevenger

Greg Raike - February 19, 2016 at 04:01 PM



“ Comments from the RHS/RCHS Alumni
Facebook Group #3



Dave was a fine gentleman who truly cared for his patients and fellow man!!! He will be missed!!!! - John D. Gridley

My brother carries the middle name Ellis because of this great man. We all loved him. - Tommie Weber

Thoughts and prayers to the family. Wonderful man and family! - Connie Martin

Sorry to hear about Dr. Ellis...I just do remember him from being with Dr. Green... - Sandy J Bulmer Rayford

My hubby and I saw Dr. Ellis at Applebee's last winter and he remembered us and our two children he delivered. I loved him as a doctor and he was such a great family man! RIP Dr Ellis, you have truly earned your wings! - Darlene Theobald Grinstead

He was not my Dr. but filled in with the absence of Dr. Norris when I gave birth to Brian...he was awesome and later learned to know him. Always friendly and caring man. Thoughts and prayers to his family. - Linda Lemen Sheehan

Condolences to Ellie and all his family! - Teleia Lower

I have known a lot of people in my life but Dr. Ellis was one of the greatest. He was a great doctor and delivered tons of babies (including me!!!), and took great care of many families in our community. He also was very active in the community after retirement. It has been great today reading Facebook and seeing all of the nice comments about how he helped people all of his life. - John Byrne

Greg Raike - February 19, 2016 at 04:00 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dr. Davis W. Ellis.*



February 19, 2016 at 01:09 PM



“ *Elizabeth Turner lit a candle in memory of Dr. Davis W. Ellis*



Elizabeth Turner - February 19, 2016 at 01:02 PM



“ *My mother always spoke highly of Dr. Ellis. He delivered all six of us children of the John Hamon family from 1953 to 1970. I remember him from my childhood. A nice, and friendly man.*

J. Michael Hamon - February 19, 2016 at 11:44 AM



“ *I do not remember meeting him. My mother always told the story of how Dr. Ellis made my hard delivery happen. I owe my life to him. He also delivered all of my siblings.*

Paul Hamon

Paul Hamon - February 19, 2016 at 11:29 AM

CF

“ *Cathy Gosser And Family lit a candle in memory of Dr. Davis W. Ellis*



Cathy Gosser and family - February 19, 2016 at 01:46 AM



“ *While my brother Roger insisted on being born at home, Dr. Ellis brought my brothers Ron, Rodney and myself into the world at RMH. He and Janet Mauzy were a great team and wonderful people. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Maureen Noble*

Maureen Noble - February 18, 2016 at 10:04 PM

CH

“ *Dr. Ellis was one of the greatest man I've know. He always had a smile on his face, a very kind heart. He truly cared and helped many people. He wasnt only our family doctor but a great friend to my mother. He also delivered my three childten. He was more of a father figure to me. There was many times I would call him and we would talk. He always listen and offered advice if needed. He was always there when you needed him. A man of patience. May you RIP Dr. Ellis. Deepest condolences to all the family.*



Cathy Fordyce Hankins - February 18, 2016 at 09:33 PM

BH

“ *Bryan And Deb Hummel lit a candle in memory of Dr. Davis W. Ellis*



Bryan and Deb Hummel - February 18, 2016 at 09:03 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dr. Davis W. Ellis.*




February 18, 2016 at 08:15 PM

DB

“ *Dick, Susan & Leanne Wiley, Jessie and Kevin Brolsma & Boys purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Dr. Davis W. Ellis.*



Dick, Susan & Leanne Wiley, Jessie and Kevin Brolsma & Boys - February 18, 2016 at 03:42 PM

 Paula King

“ *Dr. Ellis was our family doctor for years. He delivered me and took my tonsils out the summer before 3rd grade. He served on the Health Board with my dad, Doc King, for years. He will be missed in the community. Paula King*

Paula King - February 18, 2016 at 02:46 PM

BD

“ Dear Ellis Family:

Doc Ellis was loved by our family and helped us in so many ways. Our mother, Ruthanna Riebsomer, worked with him at the church and also in his office as receptionist. We grew up knowing of critical ways he gave to the Rushville community. He was at our home in the late night when our father passed away. And as our mom developed elderly complications, it was Doc I called for advice (long after I had left Rushville). I can't count the times I have told others stories of his kindness to us, and that I wished all doctors were like Doc Ellis. We were blessed with his friendship and care. I hope your sweet memories and all the stories others share will bring comfort to your hearts. Betsy Riebsomer Draper

Betsy Riebsomer Draper - February 18, 2016 at 02:23 PM

AR

“ *Dr Ellis was our family doctor when o was growing up He was always a bit scary as a kid because he was soooo tall . I remember him teasing me about how the girls always got the cute hats to wear as he was getting ready take my tonsils out. (I was 4 yes old). When I needed a copy of my birth certificate about 10 yes ago I realized he was still in Rushville. And contacted him and later he invited me & my daughter to his house and he had gotten what records that were still available of when my mother was ill & passed away. Very helpful since she died when I was 6 yes old. I felt he went way out of his way but I've appreciated the information many many times. A very great man in my opinion and I am grateful for having known him. My sympathy to his family.*

Amy (Beaver) Reisinger - February 18, 2016 at 02:04 PM

TC

“ Teresa Schneider Clark lit a candle in memory of Dr. Davis W. Ellis



Teresa Schneider Clark - February 18, 2016 at 12:12 PM

TC

Dr. Ellis took care of my family for many year. He delivered myself and my sister Rhonda. I know mom (Jane) babysat his kids for many years. My dad (Quirn) still tells stories of a particular doctor visit. Sympathy goes out to the entire family.

Teresa Schneider Clark, Plymouth MN

Teresa Schneider Clark - February 18, 2016 at 12:17 PM

MF

“ *Dr Ellis holds a special place in my heart. He was my doctor when I was 9 years old. When I married and moved to Indy I came "home" to Rushville so he could deliver our two sons. I always felt better when he walked into the room. Rick and all the rest of the family know you are in my thoughts and prayers.*

Mary Gabbert Floyd - February 18, 2016 at 11:49 AM

KS

“ *Karla Skeen lit a candle in memory of Dr. Davis W. Ellis*



Karla Skeen - February 18, 2016 at 11:40 AM

KS

We celebrate Doc's life. We will miss him in Sunday School. It hasn't been that long ago that he taught a lesson. Dr. Ellis loved this community very much. He will be missed!!

Karla Skeen - February 18, 2016 at 11:43 AM

PC

“ *Patricia Coons lit a candle in memory of Dr. Davis W. Ellis*

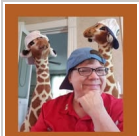


Patricia Coons - February 18, 2016 at 10:42 AM

JB

“ *Dr. Ellis was not only a great doctor, but also a role model to me. I am thankful for all the things he did for me and my family over the years. He will never be forgotten.*

Janet M. Bolan - February 18, 2016 at 10:22 AM



“ *Thank you, Dr. Ellis, for being an awesome person. Oh, and thank you for bringing me into the world. The Prifogle family will miss you.*

Sue Prifogle - February 18, 2016 at 09:42 AM

CM

“ *Carlene McCreary lit a candle in memory of Dr. Davis W. Ellis*



Carlene McCreary - February 17, 2016 at 05:13 PM