



## Dr. Farrar Wakefield Howard Sr.

November 16, 1924 - September 1, 2016

Dr. Farrar Wakefield Howard Sr., 91, graduated to Glory on September 1, 2016.

He was the youngest of four children born to the late Samuel N. Howard and Malissa Brinder Martin. Dr. Howard was raised in the Glen Echo community of Henrico County and was a 1943 graduate of Highland Springs High School.

During WW II, he served as a gunner in the U.S. Army Air Corps. Following his military service, he began his studies at the University of Richmond to become a physician, fulfilling his call to care for others. He graduated in 1949, and four years later received his medical degree from MCV. In 1950, Dr. Howard married his beloved wife, Jeannette, who had earned her nursing degree from MCV. They moved to Charles City in 1954 where they raised six children. Through their family medical practice, they served Charles City and New Kent Counties, meeting the needs of families within 800 square miles.

Dr. Howard was a faithful Christian servant. For 45 years, Dr. Howard was active in Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church as a Sunday School teacher, lay preacher, deacon, and choir member. He led a team of 13 doctors and nurses on a medical mission to Antigua in 1983, and was part of a Budapest, Hungary evangelistic team in 1992. During the 1980s, he aided in the Supervised Ministry Program of the Southeastern Baptist Theological

Seminary. In 1995, he served as moderator of the Dover Baptist Association. He was also a longtime member of the Baptist Medical Dental Fellowship, and in recent years, Dr. and Mrs. Howard graded test papers for the Gospel Jail Ministries.

An American Tree Farmer since 1958, Dr. Howard was appointed for consecutive terms to the Virginia Board of Forestry by Governors Wilder and Baliles. During those terms, he served on the board of directors and was instrumental in the 1991 passing of House Senate Joint Resolution No. 318 for the benefit of tree farmers. In 1997, Dr. and Mrs. Howard were awarded the National Outstanding Tree Farmer Award for their Mapsico tree farm in Charles City County.

Dr. Howard served the Commonwealth of Virginia for 30 years as a state medical examiner and for 20 years on the medical examiner's draft board. He also took part in a 1974 Civilian Fact Finding Mission to Israel with Senator Harry F. Byrd.

In 1946, he joined the Masonic Order and was a current member of Mann Page Lodge No. 157 AF & AM in Providence Forge. He was recently recognized for serving as a Mason for 70 years. Dedicated to his community and its citizens, he volunteered as the team physician for New Kent High School, gave generously to many causes—including the formation of the Providence Forge Volunteer Rescue Squad in 1962 and the Heritage Public Library—and was an honorary member of the Chickahominy Indian Tribe. In 1976, as part of America's bicentennial celebration, Dr. Howard helped form a community choir and was honored to sing at the White House. He was also instrumental in restoring the historic name of G.W. Watkins to the elementary school in New Kent.

Dr. Howard was preceded in death by a great-grandson, Hawkins Bowman,

Jr.; siblings, Marshall Bradford, Evelyn and Mildred; and nephews, Howard Lee and Marshall Brown.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Jeannette Adele Windsor Howard; six children and their spouses, Farrar Jr. (Wakie) and Rose Howard, Samuel and Joanne Howard, Martin and Debbie Howard, Ruth and David Hennaman, Bradford and Sharon Howard, and Bruce and Betty Howard; 16 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

No one could question Dr. Howard's dedication and love for his family, patients, community, and country that stemmed from his faith in the Lord. He strongly believed that human life is sacred; is composed of body, mind, soul, spirit; and is exhibited by love for God and others. As a physician, he and his staff never failed to offer their best effort, regardless of social position.

He will long be remembered by one of his favorite sayings, "The love you liberate in your work is the love you ultimately keep. Your life and mind shall be valued...not by what we take...but by what we give."

A memorial service will be held 3 p.m. Sunday, September 18th at New Kent High School, 7365 Egypt Rd., New Kent, VA 23124. Memorial contributions can be made to Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, 19300 The Glebe Ln., Charles City, VA 23030, or to HopeTree Family Services, P.O. Box 849, Salem, VA 24153.

# Previous Events

## Service

SEP **18.** 3:00 PM (ET)

New Kent High School  
7365 Egypt Rd.  
New Kent, VA 23124

# Tribute Wall

HJ

“ When I was in the 7th grade I came home from school sick. When Dad got home from work Mom told him to take me to Dr. Howard's office. I don't remember if there were any patients in the waiting room but he saw me right away. He gave me a shot and told Dad to "get him back into the car while he can still walk because in a few minutes he will be out". Dr. Howard came by our house the next evening to follow up on me and make sure that I was getting better. I believe that he was the last of the "house callers". A true humanitarian with a gift and a love for people. Thanks Doc, I'll be seeing again one day.

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**Harvell Jefferson** - February 26 at 05:09 PM

MG

“ My family moved to New Kent in 1973 and Dr. Howard was my chosen PCP. From my association with him and his love for the community, I had the pleasure of meeting his family and we all had ties to the community through the Youth Athletic Association. I know I am not the only one who looked at Dr. Howard as an outstanding Doctor, but he was a genuine humanitarian.  
Condolences to, and prayers for to THE THE ENTIRE FAMILY.  
Michael Gray

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**Michael Gray** - September 03, 2021 at 06:58 PM

RJ

“ I am deeply saddened by the news of Dr. Howard passing. My deepest sympathies go out to the Howard family. May God give you the comfort and peace that you seek and may Dr. Howards soul rest in peace. Dr. Howard was truly a remarkable man. I will never forget how he treated me when I was the first African American to play on the Charles city High School basketball team during the sixties. I played along with his son Wakie and Dr. Howard always made me feel welcomed and cared for. Dr. Howard became to be a great friend of my father and family over the years. He will never be forgotten.

Richard M. Bowman Jr.  
Plano, TX

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Richard M Bowman, Jr - September 22, 2016 at 03:59 PM

CS

“ My wife and I met Doc Howard at the Kentwood Heights Baptist Church. He and his wife were very social and gracious. I would run into him from time to time while I worked for his son, Wakie. I was always impressed with how humble and giving he was. He was a fine example of what a Christian is. What a wonderful person, he will be dearly missed.

Chris and Shirley Spare

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Chris Spare - September 17, 2016 at 10:00 PM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



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Darlene Thomas - September 14, 2016 at 07:53 PM

HG

“ We have wonderful memories of Dr. Howard . When we first moved to New Kent, when my son was about 1 1/2 he spiked a high fever, I wrapped him up and took him to the office, Dr.Howard yelled at me for bring him out to the office, he stated that he would have come by after office hours. Told him I did not know Drs. still did house calls, He said this one sure does. . Dennis and Helga

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**Helga Gunn** - September 10, 2016 at 10:40 AM



“ Multicolor Bright Mixed Flower Fireside Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Farrar Wakefield Howard Sr..



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September 09, 2016 at 07:58 PM

MJ

“ We are praying for strength and comfort for you at this time. We have so many Memories of this wonderful man. We will keep all of you in our thoughts and prayers.

*With Heartfelt Condolences*

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**Mike and Brenda Johnson** - September 08, 2016 at 06:46 AM

MS

“ Our family has many wonderful memories of Dr. Howard. He was our family physician when we moved to Charles City County in 1956. We saw him in his office and when he made house calls in the evenings. He would meet us in the middle of the night in his office or at the pharmacy when we need some medicine. Dr. Howard was an incredible human being. His love of God, family and everyone he met was always visible.

*We send our love and prayers to Jeannette and the entire Howard family.*

*Joy Schnurman & Family*

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**mike schnurman** - September 07, 2016 at 12:59 PM

RC

“ *May the lord keep you in his hands forever. Love and gratitude to Dr. Howard and family. Sincerely Rebecca Carter At West Point Family Barbershop*



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**Rebacca Carter** - September 07, 2016 at 08:06 AM

JS

“ *Great Intellect, sense of duty, honor and humor. Fun to be around in any situation. A friend to all. Will be often missed but often remembered with a smile. Comfort to his family. John C. Smith; Consulting Forester; Richmond, VA.*

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**John C. Smith** - September 06, 2016 at 10:28 PM

PP

“ *Peggy Putze lit a candle in memory of Dr. Farrar Wakefield Howard Sr.*



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**Peggy Putze** - September 06, 2016 at 08:29 PM

EB

“ *I was just talking to my momma (Jean couch) she was telling me when we were just 6 weeks old she was crying and stuff and she called Dr Howard and he said go to bed I will be there soon. When he got there and saw us twins (vicki and Ellen) he said we were so cute could he take one of us home! So much love has left this earth with his passing, but he made a greater world when he was here*

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**Ellen Brown** - September 05, 2016 at 12:20 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. May God bless you all with the peace that only he can give. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Steve and Diane Fenton*

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**Diane Fenton** - September 05, 2016 at 06:58 AM

DT

“ *I am honored and humbled to have worked with Dr.Howard from 1982 until his retirement. He was a true healer and friend to all. It did not matter if the malady was in mind, body or spirit he would do all he could to make it right. He was a unique example of what medical practice could be at its best. We are all better and our lives richer because of him. He made manifest Christian love for others in his daily life. Dennis Thomas*

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**Dennis Thomas** - September 05, 2016 at 05:30 AM

LD

“ During the 1960s-70s I was a young evening and night supervisor at Stuart Circle hospital Many times Dr.Howard would call to say that a patient was on the way.He always started by saying,"Farra Howard here".He was one of my role models throughout forty six years of nursing.What a man!What a legacy!The world was better for him having been in it.I am better for having known him.  
I feel God must have smiled when he reached the Pearly Gates and said,"Farra Howard here".  
My condolences to the family,especially his sweet wife.  
Linda Dudley,R>N>

Linda Dudley - September 05, 2016 at 04:56 AM

HW

“ Doctor Howard , Was my Doctor for many years . Family you will carry him in your heart . God bless each and everyone of you . Everything you think of him you will put a smile on your face . R.I.P Doctor Howard . God love you the best .



Hazel Wynn - September 05, 2016 at 02:38 AM

SC

To Dr. HOWARD family,we have known for years, great family, great loss, WestPoint Barber Shop Bill and Shirley Carlton. Love and prayers

Shirley Carlton - September 13, 2016 at 04:04 PM

BD

“ Living on the same street with Doc and Jeanette Howard was a blessing, as I ended up with all Howard's as friends. One Christmas, the family decided to resurrect the blue lighted Christmas tree, which required the Howard boys to climb the tree and replace blind. Plans were made for the illumination And for the live animals. Hot Chocolate and enchanted children, Christmas carols and joy...and fellowship. I give thanks for Doc and for being part of the time in our lives. Becky DeCamps, formerly Becky Platt. ❤️

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**Becky (Platt) DeCamps** - September 04, 2016 at 10:19 PM

JM

“ May God hold the Howard family in his hand and give them the comfort and peace that they and Dr. Howard have given so many over the decades. Dr. Howard was (is) a blessing to our communities, New Kent and Charles City Counties have lost a treasure and a true hero. No one will ever know the true service that this man of God provided to the citizens of our area. He never sought the fanfare he deserved for the many investments he made in our community. He invested heavily in the lives of many others offering friendship, mentorship, financial support, educational opportunities, love and faith and never asking for any recognition for all he and his family have done. I can tell you he served God faithfully in every facet of his life. He provided such an example for us all to aspire to be and he set the standards for us all to strive to reach. The entire Howard family is such an asset to our community and this is due to Doc being the father he was. America has lost a hero - one who served his nation in war and his communtiy daily serving in God's image. Doc we love you and we will do our best to honor you in our lives. God bless Doctor Howard and the entire Howard family as they have blessed us. Rest in peace my friend,

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**Joe McLaughlin** - September 04, 2016 at 02:05 PM

DM

“ I have had so many people, that i came contact with, tell me their many fond memories of Dr. Howard, being their doctor and how much they have loved him. As a medical professional i have recognized his great contributions as Doctor in the commuthat he had served. I will surely miss him, greatly.

Dr. Srikanth Mahavadi - September 04, 2016 at 01:50 PM

ME

“ May God surround you in Peace during this difficult time. Dr. Howard touched hearts and was a bright light in many lives. You are in our thoughts and prayers! Mia and Daryl Eubank



Mia Eubank - September 04, 2016 at 01:48 PM

CA

“ Dr.Howard was the best doctor that anyone could ever have. He was my childhood doctor. I love him very much. My thoughts and prayers go out to the Howard Family.



constance adkins - September 04, 2016 at 10:41 AM

LW

“ OUR CHILDHOOD DOCTOR AND FRIEND FOR LIFE, AND A TRUE LEGAND OF HIS TIMES. MAY THE GOOD LORD BLESS HIS FAMILY,  
SHARON JOHNSON AND LEROY A. WILLIAMS

LEROY A. WILLIAMS - September 04, 2016 at 10:10 AM

CF

“ *Such a great man. You and the family is in our prayers. Elizabeth Cotman Family.*

Cotman Family - September 04, 2016 at 03:23 AM

SC

“ *TO THE HOWARD FAMILY: My prayers and sympathy are sent to you in the passing of your love one, Dr. Howard. He was a loving person that would greet u with a smile. He will be truly miss. May God bless each of you and comfort all of you.*

*Shirley Montreats Christian  
Richmond, VA*

Shirley Abrams Christian - September 03, 2016 at 11:45 PM

CI

“ *Dr Howard was my childhood Doctor and my doctor until he retired he was a very good doctor who could put you at ease. He will be greatly missed*

Calvin C Crewe III - September 03, 2016 at 03:57 PM

RC

“ *THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS GO OUT TO THE HOWARD/WINDSOR FAMILIES.*



Robert Charity - September 03, 2016 at 02:32 PM



Kyra  
Frank

“ *Dr. Howard was my childhood doctor and I loved him very much!! I will always remember him telling me that he was looking for a rabbit when he had to look in my ears and at my throat!! He was an amazing person and doctor and will be missed greatly!!! My thoughts and prayers are with the Howard family during this time!!*

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**Kyra Frank** - September 03, 2016 at 11:11 AM



*I remember Dr.Howard he was my childhood doctor loved him very much. Was such a great doctor and friend. He will be missed. Prayers to the Howard family at this time.*

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**Patricia Lang-Harrell** - September 03, 2016 at 12:07 PM

(B)

“ I met Farrar many years ago, when he was on the pastor search committee of Mount Pleasant Baptist Church. For reasons I still do not understand, I was called to Mount Pleasant and served as pastor for five years. Two specific memories: Shortly after arriving, Farrar and Jeannette took my wife and I to the "finest eating establishment in all of Providence Forge," i.e., the Sportsman. We were looking over the menu, and Farrar said, "Order the chicken. It will be the best chicken you ever ate." I did, and it was. I rather bathed it in superlatives, and finally, Farrar said, "well, it ought to be good. Curtis hasn't changed the grease in 35 years." I still chuckle over that one and love to tell the story.

The other story spoke of his belief in mission, especially local mission. It was about 1984, 1985, when Farrar and Jeannette and my wife and I were sharing another dinner together. They both felt like they were being called to help birth a new church start in New Kent County. They were leaving Mount Pleasant, not for negative reasons, but for very positive reasons. I remember church members expressing concern for their leaving, but as usual, Farrar was right. Mount Pleasant remained strong, and the New Kent church had a wonderful beginning and early years with one of the best lay people you could possibly have as a church member and leader.

In thinking of his legacy, it occurs to me to use the metaphor of his beloved tree farm. I remember how proud he was of that place, and in reflecting over his life, I think of his being the towering tree amongst the people of New Kent and Charles City counties. I think of his children, and his grandchildren, and his fellow members of churches, and his patients, and his communities that so enriched him as being the grown, maturing, and even seedlings in the great forest of peoples in those communities. His was, and is, a forest that will stand for generations.

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(The Reverend) Al Bastin - September 03, 2016 at 10:48 AM

AB

*Well, I can't see a way to fix this. It's supposed to be signed (The Reverend) Al Bastin....*

**Al Bastin** - September 03, 2016 at 10:51 AM

UH

*our condolences ..to the family you in our prayers....ronnie & ursula houser*

**ursula houser** - September 04, 2016 at 01:44 PM

JM

*“ We are greatly sadden by the loss of Doc! He always called me red at the store! Our prayers are with the Howard family!! From all of us at Stewart's Grocery!!*



**judy moncure** - September 03, 2016 at 09:12 AM

CG

*“ Dr. Howard was my doctor and my Sunday school teacher, a family friend, a leader in our community, and an incredible person to everyone. His memory will be with us always. My prayers for his family and our community, he will be missed by all...*

*Chris Graves*

**Chris Graves** - September 03, 2016 at 07:13 AM

RH

*“ One of the finest Christians I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. His life impacted whole communities with grace, love and hope. He will be missed but his legacy will endure for generations.*

*Randy Haynes*

**Randy Haynes** - September 03, 2016 at 06:59 AM

BD

“ *he was my first dr and i reALLY CARED FOR HIM*

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**BRYAN DECHEUBEL** - September 03, 2016 at 06:43 AM

LH

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Leila Holmes** - September 02, 2016 at 09:45 PM

SC

*Dr. Howard was an amazing man who touched us all. Charles City, New Kent and all of those that he honored to be their physician and friend were truly blessed to have known him. He was a rare gem in our world and will be greatly missed! A shining example of the hippocratic oath and the epitome of a true servant to our Lord.*

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**Sharon Jones, Charles City County** - September 03, 2016 at 12:12 AM

LH

“ *Dr. Howard was the best doctor that anyone could ever have. Truly a great man that was be greatly missed.*

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**Leila Holmes** - September 02, 2016 at 09:43 PM

BB

“ *Sending hugs and warm thoughts to the Howard family. I know that your hearts break at the loss of such a great man and role model in each of your lives. I can picture him entering the gates of our heavenly kingdom where he will be home. Keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers. -Clyde and Beth Baldwin*

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**Beth Baldwin** - September 02, 2016 at 09:19 PM

BB

*My thoughts and prayers go out to the Howard family.*

**Betty Banks** - September 03, 2016 at 03:10 PM

CA

*Dr. Howard was the best doctor that anyone could have. He was my childhood doctor. I love him very much. My thoughts and prayers go out to the Howard Family.*

**constance adkins** - September 04, 2016 at 10:09 AM



“ *There just isn't enough space to write about this amazing man and his entire family. Love you Doc, you were a legend in this community.*



**Becky Hogge** - September 02, 2016 at 08:45 PM

JT

“ *Save me a seat Doc, between you and David...*

**Jim Taylor** - September 02, 2016 at 08:45 PM



“ *Darlene Thomas lit a candle in memory of Dr. Farrar Wakefield Howard Sr.*



**Darlene Thomas** - September 02, 2016 at 07:01 PM

LW

*What a wonderful man. He will be greatly missed by all that knew him. Sending prayers to the Howard family.*

**Lisa Woodson** - September 03, 2016 at 04:51 AM

FL

*What a blessing to our community so many years ago!*

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**Frances Lemons** - September 03, 2016 at 06:32 AM

LH

*I first knew doc as a decon in my church. We bonded over a sick fawn. I was a child and he made a house call from church to see a sick fawn. It was a moment of tender emotion and life lesson for me. He became my life long friend and mentor. My second daddy I called him! He laughed and we would talk. Later I worked for him and helped set up office in P.F.*

*I amazed at his treatment of humanity at all levels. His acceptance of all. He practiced what he preached, in a quite and humble way. Not a day goes by, that I do not think of him. Not a patient sits in my office that they don't get a dose of what he taught me.*

*See you soon dear man!! Love to the family!! You carry on his legacy! You are amazing to!*

*Love you all, Linda Graves Hall*

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**linda hall** - September 03, 2016 at 09:11 AM

HW

*I would like to extend my sympathy to the Howard family on Dr. Howards graduation to glory. I first knew him when he made house calls to our home when I was an early teenager, then at the office in Charles City at Steriling Heights. While playing on the football team at New Kent he was always in the locker room and along the sidelines looking out for his boys. In later years I discovered that we both had a fascination with tugboats as he would take trips on the Evelyn Doris with Norris Wooten.*

*He has been such a big part of many things in New Kent .*

*Henry Ward,*

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**HENRY WARD** - September 03, 2016 at 04:52 PM

PS

*TO THE HOWARD FAMILY \*\*\* MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY  
As many has said Dr. Howard was our family doctor when I was a little girl, his office was on RT 155 in Charles City. I was never scared with him, he always would talk to you first.. make u feel safe..... What a great man... I pray for his family but he is in a much better place.....AMEN*

**Peggy Overman Sullivan** - September 03, 2016 at 05:48 PM

RH

*Our thoughts and prayers are with the Howard family during this time.  
Ruby and Al Hammill*

**Ruby Hammill** - September 06, 2016 at 10:05 AM

ER

*What a great time to celebrate the glorious life of a Real Man which affected many lives with love during his life. His love and obedience to God and his love for the care of the wonderful gift from God, his woodland. May God care for all his family.*

*Ed and Becky Rountree*

**Ed Rountree** - September 07, 2016 at 11:13 AM

KB

*I remember years ago I saw an elderly Gentleman having a difficult time getting into his car and assisted him as he was leaving a local flower shop, Wild Birds. He was so kind, humble and precious beyond words. A co- worker asked me did I know who I assisted. I said no and was told he was Dr. Howard. I was honored. God bless you all.*

**Kim Bevan** - September 07, 2016 at 07:55 PM