

## Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien

February 12, 1926 - August 11, 2017

Francis Eugene O'Brien, MD, age 91, of Rensselaer, Indiana, passed peacefully at his home on Friday, August 11, 2017. Dr. O'Brien was born in Evansville, Indiana on February 12, 1926. He was the eldest of three boys of the late Frank and Hazel née Brammer O'Brien.

On June 16, 1951, in Terre Haute, Indiana, Dr. O'Brien married the love of his life, Barbara Anne Taylor, who passed away July 25, 2005. Barbara and he moved to Rensselaer shortly thereafter; where they raised their family of five children.

Dr. O'Brien attended Indiana State University, Terre Haute for one year, then was drafted into the United States Army where he served his country for four years during World War II and was injured in the Battle of the Bulge. He was a twice recipient of the Purple Heart Award. After his service in the army, he returned to graduate from Indiana State University and Indiana University Medical School. He performed his residency at Detroit General Hospital.

Dr. O'Brien began his family practice in Rensselaer in the former Medical Arts Building. He retired in 2003 after 48 years of caring for his patients. He became a lifetime Diplomat of the American Academy of Family Practitioners and was an Alpha Omega Alpha or member of the top 5% of his graduating class from Indiana University Medical School. He was a member of St.

Augustine Catholic Church and a past member of the Knights of Columbus. He enjoyed golfing with friends and family and being a member of the Curtis Creek Country Club.

Dr. O'Brien is survived by his five children, Thomas J. O'Brien, JD of Lafayette, Indiana, Dr. Marianne Nelson of Rensselaer, Patrick (Janice) O'Brien, JD of Greenwood, Indiana, Dr. Mark S. O'Brien of Waterloo, Indiana and Kathleen A. (Keith) Hoovis of Spring Grove, Illinois. He is also survived by 10 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter, the light of his life, Dylan Plascak. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife and two brothers.

Friends are invited to visit with the family on Wednesday, August 16, 2017 from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer. A funeral mass will be held on Thursday, August 17, 2017 at 10:00 AM at St. Augustine Catholic Church, Rensselaer. Interment will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery with full military rites. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Augustine Catholic Church or the charity of the donor's choice.

# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Calvary Cemetery - Rensselaer

Mt. Calvary Cemetery  
Rensselaer, IN 47978

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 16. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer  
250 N. McKinley Avenue  
P.O. Box 70  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5123  
[info@jacksonfuneral.com](mailto:info@jacksonfuneral.com)  
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>

## Funeral Mass

AUG 17. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Augustine Catholic Church  
318 North McKinley Avenue  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5351  
<https://stmichaelpastorate.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ Jackson Funeral Chapels created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien



Jackson Funeral Chapels - August 15, 2017 at 04:23 PM

PF

“ My prayers for your family at this time. My grandmother Myrtle Walter worked with Dr. O'Brien for many years. He was a good man

pamela beeching fitzgerald - August 17, 2017 at 01:40 AM

RH

“ Rich & Dale Huhn lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien



Rich & Dale Huhn - August 16, 2017 at 06:36 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien.



August 16, 2017 at 09:57 AM

TP

“ *Many wonderful thoughts about a very wonderful Man, Dad & Doctor.*

*My thoughts and prayers to the Obrien Family.*

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**Tim Pelton** - August 15, 2017 at 03:25 PM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien.*



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August 15, 2017 at 02:41 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Jackson Funeral Chapels** - August 15, 2017 at 02:20 PM

TS

“ *Tim & Linda Shide lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien*

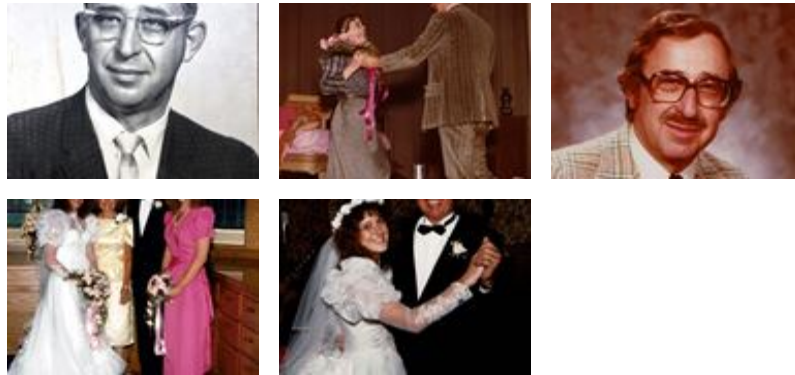


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**Tim & Linda Shide** - August 14, 2017 at 03:09 PM



“ 44 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Jackson Funeral Chapels - August 14, 2017 at 03:07 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien.



August 14, 2017 at 12:39 PM



“ *Always a hoot working with you! Rest in peace.*  
*Terry Tatlock RN*



Terry Tatlock - August 14, 2017 at 12:32 PM

DC

“ *Derrick Christy and Companies purchased the En during Grace for the family of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien.*



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**Derrick Christy and Companies** - August 14, 2017 at 11:38 AM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien.*



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August 14, 2017 at 11:15 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien.*



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August 14, 2017 at 09:52 AM

MB

“ *Myles Beeching lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien*



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**Myles Beeching** - August 14, 2017 at 07:56 AM

LS

“ I want to thank Dr O'Briens family for sharing him with all of us. I know being a great Dr he missed many things with his family. I also want to thank him for the kindness he showed to the Studer family and my grandmother Martha Hurley who also babysat for his children. May he now RIP  
Sincerely,  
Lana Studer

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Lana Studer - August 14, 2017 at 07:14 AM

DE

I was 15 and pregnant and a runaway when he took me as a patient probably not legal today but it was" 75"I paid for Lynn on a payment plan he was so good to me and kind to someone who needed it.

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debhuhn@aol.com - August 14, 2017 at 12:12 PM

LE

“ 34 years as my Dr. What can I say..In my heart, he is still my Dr. He took care of our whole family and hated to see him retire. Our family loved this man.  
R.I.P. friend. Lois Marshall Evers



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Lois Evers - August 13, 2017 at 08:17 PM

BB

“ Dr. O'Brien delivered my kids, diagnosed my son's tumor, saw me thru his cancer treatment and his death. Always had time for me. My sincere sympathy to his family.

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Bev Bingham - August 13, 2017 at 06:14 PM

DB

“ Deric And Mindy Beier lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien



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**Deric and Mindy Beier** - August 13, 2017 at 06:05 PM

JC

“ I am so sorry to hear of Dr. O'Brien's passing. I can't even begin to describe how much he meant to me in my life. He always had time for me. He was so very kind, but if he needed to let you know that you weren't taking care of yourself very well, he would mince no words. He cared very much for all his patients. Fly high Doc, Fly high.



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**Jane Cox** - August 13, 2017 at 03:14 PM



Cathy Blasco

*Condolences from the Blasco family (John, in Orlando, Florida).*

*If John was injured on the road (trucker) he'd wait to see Doc O'Brien if he could. Four/five times!*

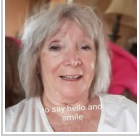
*Delivered John's daughter, Tosha, in his golf shoes.*

*Diagnosed both parents: Joe Blasco and Dee Blasco with cancer.*

*There are no words to express our feelings to Dr. O'Brien's family for their loss. Many heartfelt condolences.*

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**Cathy Blasco** - August 13, 2017 at 07:11 PM



“ Not only my Doctor for my family, but I was privileged to do the custom interior of their new home about 1995 or so,( also in their daughters new home south of town).. ...great people... I will always remember his sense of humor.. Sincere, Doris Nelson Stalbaum\_Thorne.

Doris Nelson Stalbaum Thorne - August 13, 2017 at 02:45 PM

RP

“ Ralph & Lisa Pizer lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien



Ralph & Lisa Pizer - August 13, 2017 at 09:05 AM

SM

“ Sorry for your loss. He was a very good doctor.



Stacy mitchell - August 12, 2017 at 10:01 PM

GR

“ So very sorry for your loss. "Doc" was a kind and gentle doctor. I so didn't want him to retire, but of course we had Marianne. Thank goodness. He can now be with the other angels.

Georgiana and Charlie Roadruck - August 12, 2017 at 08:02 PM

JS

“ Dr. O'Brien was a great Doctor and friend. He will be missed by so many. In 2,000, I took Don to the ER. Dr. O'Brien was on duty and scheduled scans for next day as he didn't think it was just the flu. It was a 7.5 aortic aneurysm. He and Barb left for Florida the next morning so he never knew he saved Don's life until a few months later. The other doctor questioned the scans the next day. Boy was he surprised when the results were found.

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**Judy Smith** - August 12, 2017 at 03:55 PM

AH

“ Anita Ramey Hladish lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien



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**Anita Ramey Hladish** - August 12, 2017 at 02:13 PM

DW

“ Our sincere sympathy to all of you. Your dad and mother were very special people.



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**Don and Gloria Waymouth** - August 12, 2017 at 10:57 AM

JS

“ So sorry for your loss.  
Doc as I always called him brought me into the world.  
And took care of me and my family until his retirement.  
We will miss him as we have since he left his practice.  
I know I don't have to tell you but he was a great man.  
Rest in Peace Doc.

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**Jon & Sheree Sayers** - August 12, 2017 at 10:25 AM

MH

“ What a great Dr./neighbor/friend! Early memory- I was 3 or 4 when I fell out of our neighbors, the Abrahams tree. Dr. O'B.had hurt his back and was recuperating at home so he drove his car full speed thru their yard to check if I'd broken any bones. He was always kind/gentle. Can still see him mowing the lawn and watering bushes in his scrubs after work....

*He and Barb were wonderful to my mom the last few years of her life...I will always be grateful.*

*Marcia Murray Hall*

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**Marcia Murray Hall** - August 12, 2017 at 10:00 AM

MF

“ Marcella Miller And Family lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien



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**Marcella Miller and family** - August 12, 2017 at 09:43 AM

LH

“ *Dr. O'Brien was the best doctor ever. He delivered all 3 of our sons and took great care of them while they were growing up. He was one of the smartest men I had the pleasure of knowing. RIP Dr. O'Brien.* 🌹



Linda Gentry Hall - August 12, 2017 at 08:59 AM

MM

“ *Martha Madison lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien*



martha madison - August 12, 2017 at 01:11 AM



“ *Deb Campbell lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien*



Deb Campbell - August 12, 2017 at 12:26 AM



“ *He delivered all six of us and was mom and dad's doctor till he retired.*

Deb Campbell - August 12, 2017 at 12:23 AM



“ *Dr O'Brien was my favorite doctor!! He deliver me in 1976, then my son Justin in 1995 and my son Jordan in 1996. He was our doctor until the day he retired. I loved him so very much!! RIP Doc, fly high* ❤️🙏



**Raquel Wicker** - August 11, 2017 at 11:28 PM

PS

“ *Pamela Spangle lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien*



**Pamela Spangle** - August 11, 2017 at 10:48 PM

JS

“ *Judy Siegrist lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien*



**Judy Siegrist** - August 11, 2017 at 10:15 PM



“ *Marilyn Lowry lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien*



**Marilyn Lowry** - August 11, 2017 at 10:06 PM

MK

“ *Many wonderful memories of working for and with Dr. O'Brien. Condolences to the family.*



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**Mary Kozuch** - August 11, 2017 at 09:55 PM

NS

“ *A very compassionate man. My deepest sympathy to the family.*



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**Nancy Sheffer-Poole** - August 11, 2017 at 09:36 PM

JB

“ *Judy Burvan lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien*



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**Judy Burvan** - August 11, 2017 at 09:31 PM

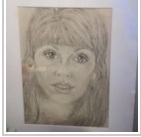
RH

“ *Rich & Dale Huhn lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien*



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**Rich & Dale Huhn** - August 11, 2017 at 09:18 PM



“ *Best Doctor I ever had. I compare all the others to you and they all come up short. So I am without. My childhood doctor and my kids doctor.*💕

Susan Becker Towler - August 11, 2017 at 09:15 PM



“ *Rebecca Chastain lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien*



Rebecca Chastain - August 11, 2017 at 09:12 PM



“ *Cathy Prohosky lit a candle in memory of Dr. Francis Eugene O'Brien*



Cathy Prohosky - August 11, 2017 at 08:54 PM



“ *Dr O'Brien I will never forget the evening you saved me and my twin babies lives 27 years ago. You weren't sure you could save us all but you did emergency c-section and saved all three of us. You were our life saver. Forever grateful. Condolences to the family*

Tina Ealy - August 11, 2017 at 07:56 PM

CH

“ Doc preformed my first surgery. Which was my removing my appendix when I was in the eighth grade. I'll never forget, how kind he was at keeping me calm and explaining everything up until he said good night. RIP Doc you will be missed greatly.

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**Carrie Hendricks** - August 11, 2017 at 07:46 PM

DS

“ Our family Doctor the best around. RIP Dr. Obrien . Thoughts and prayers for the family! Donna Sullivan

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**Donna sullivan** - August 11, 2017 at 07:46 PM

E(

“ This man took care if my entire family. He also worked with a lot if my family and friends either nurses or nurse practitioners. Bless him and RIP Doc great man

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**Elizabeth ( Libby) Hawkins (DeMoss)** - August 11, 2017 at 07:13 PM