



Dr. James Hilary Cody

July 25, 1942 - June 7, 2026

With deep sadness and grateful hearts, we announce the passing of Dr. James Hilary Cody, who entered into eternal rest on June 7, 2026 at the age of 83.

Born on July 25, 1942 in Germantown, TN., Jim lived a life dedicated to serving others. A gifted surgeon, he was known not only for exceptional skill and professionalism, but also for the kindness, compassion, and genuine care shown to every patient and family entrusted to his care. Throughout a distinguished career, he touched countless lives, offering healing, comfort, and hope.

He was a man of deep faith who had a close relationship with the ultimate Healer. A member of Centenary Methodist Church since moving to Franklinton in 1976, he sang in the choir for nearly five decades. Above all, Jim cherished family. Nothing brought greater joy than spending time with his beloved grandchildren. Whether sharing stories, attending activities, or simply enjoying time together, he treasured every moment spent with them.

Jim also had a deep love for music, which filled his life with happiness and brought family and friends together. Those that knew him knew his love for rock and roll on the piano. A devoted fan of LSU Tigers athletics, he rarely missed an opportunity to cheer on the Tigers and enjoyed sharing that

passion with family and friends.

Those who knew Jim will remember him for a gentle spirit, generous heart, quiet strength, and unwavering dedication to helping others. His life was a testament to compassion, service, and love.

Jim is survived by his wife, Dixie, daughter Jamie Matise (Chris), and granddaughters Emma, Kate, and Hannah, brother Stephen, and sister Debra Norton. He was preceded in death by father JB Cody, mother Elizabeth Cody, and sister Jan Hughes..

A Memorial Service celebrating his life will be held on Sunday June 14, 2026 at 2:00 pm at Centenary Methodist Church (1015 Cleveland St., Franklinton, LA) with a reception in the church fellowship hall immediately following the service. Family and friends are invited to gather in remembrance, share stories, and honor the remarkable life and legacy of a beloved physician, family member, and friend.

The family wishes to express their sincere gratitude for all the prayers and acts of kindness during Jim's extended illness.

Though deeply missed, Dr. Cody's legacy of kindness, service, and love will continue to live on in the hearts of all who were blessed to know him.

"Well done, good and faithful servant." — Matthew 25:23

May the memories shared, the lives touched, and the love given bring comfort and peace to all who mourn.

Tribute Wall

SB

“ *Deepest sympathy for the family.. Prayers for God's comfort! Many cherished memories of Dr Cody thru the years. One of my favorite is of him in the snow. He didn't really want me to take it but after me saying "how many times do we get snow like this".. he agreed! Grateful for all he did for many of us!! Prayers!*



Sharon T Beckett - June 13 at 09:43 PM

SB

Just a few of many cherished memories of Dr Cody at RMC.

Sharon T Beckett - June 13 at 09:47 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. James Hilary Cody.*

June 12 at 06:17 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. James Hilary Cody.*



June 12 at 06:17 PM



“ *May Almighty Father God bless and comfort the family and strengthen the family* ❤️🙏



Anthony Martin and jashon Johnson Martin - June 12 at 10:11 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. James Hilary Cody.*



June 11 at 04:33 PM



“ *Dr. Cody was the best surgeon and Our community was blessed to have him . Prayers for you all during this difficult time .*

Shannon Knight - June 10 at 07:48 PM



I agree Shannon - He was absolutely the best!

Sharon T Beckett - June 13 at 09:44 PM

HL

“ I had the Honor of doing Anesthesia for many years with him. He recruited me to Riverside Hospital from North Oaks Hospital. Several people thought it was a mistake, because of Dr. Cody, it became the best career move I would make. He was a very gifted surgeon. My deepest condolences to the Cody family.

Hal Lamb - June 10 at 05:19 PM

MD

He was the best Surgeon Riverside Medical Center has ever had. Yes, he was very gifted and working with him no matter what the situation was he was a gentle soul. It was and will always be an honor to have worked with him. My deepest sympathies for the Family.

Mechele Dickerson - June 10 at 07:53 PM

SB

Absolutely the best Surgeon for RMC. And for any who knew or worked with him. ❤️

Sharon T Beckett - June 13 at 09:46 PM

BM

We are so fortunate to have had Dr. Cody at Riverside Medical Center. He was a selfless and talented surgeon. I remember he and the surgical team abruptly leaving a Christmas Party one year to save the life of someone that had been injured in a car accident. He was always willing to allow our therapy students the opportunity to observe surgical procedures. I am so grateful to have known and worked with such an incredible man. You will be missed Dr. Cody.

B Moody - June 13 at 11:33 PM

SM

“ I treasure the time I spent in the OR at RMC with Dr. Cody. He was a gifted surgeon and saved so many people. My mother had serious health issues as he was nearing retirement but he promised her he would perform her surgery before he retired and he did. She lived for ten more years . He was multi-talented and a joy to know.

Susan Magee - June 10 at 04:50 PM