



Galen John Schmit, M.D.

October 16, 1941 - April 24, 2015

John Schmit, M.D. died on April 24, 2015 in Tucson after a long battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Susan, his four children, sons Brandon, Joel, and Nathan, and daughter Melanie Harrison, his sisters Geraldine Butler and Lillian Moore, his brother Edward II, and his seven grandchildren Ansley, Cole, Hudson, Max, Maela, Mason, with the newest one arriving shortly, along with a large extended family. He is Galen preceded in death by his parents, Edward and Fae Schmit.

Born on October 16, 1941 in Staples, Minnesota, Galen moved with his family to Prescott in 1947. He attended St. Joseph's Academy from 1947 to 1959 and then continued his undergraduate education at Loyola Marymount University in California, graduating in 1964. He pursued his medical degree at St. Louis University School of Medicine, graduating in 1968. Galen served as an intern at St. John's Mercy Medical Center, as an emergency room doctor at Christian Hospital NW in St. Louis, followed by a Diagnostic Radiology residency at University of Utah Medical Center in Salt Lake City. After practicing radiology in Helena, Montana, he moved his young family back to Prescott in 1975. He then continued his radiology practice at Yavapai Regional Medical Center, serving his community until his retirement in 2000. Galen had a multitude of interests, from flying, gliding, sailing, camping, and gardening to sculpture, oil painting, woodworking, machining, and playing the piano. He was an avid collector of books, antique telephones, and carbide cannons. Being a life-long learner, he returned to school after retiring, taking

classes in art, science, and history. He also enjoyed the warmth, diversity and abundant beauty of the Sonoran desert. His humbleness and wisdom influenced so many and he will be greatly missed.

A graveside funeral will be held at Mountain View Cemetery, 1051 Willow Creek Rd, Prescott, Arizona, on Saturday, May 2, 2015 at 12 PM. Immediately following the funeral, there will be a reception and celebration of life at Plaza Bonita, 1317 E. Gurley St, from 1-5 PM.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Yavapai Food Bank, PO Box 4151, Prescott, Arizona 86302.

Tribute Wall

MN

“ *Galen. I enjoyed meeting you and Susan a few years ago your son Nathan invited me to share time with you ,Susan, and my daughter Juanita at Granite Mountain
Had a wonderful lunch.
Thank you
Mary R Nunez*

Mary R Nunez - May 02, 2015 at 08:31 PM

JS

“ *Dear Aunt Susan and Family:
I will always remember Galen's wonderful laugh, smile, and sparkle in his eyes.
Especially when he and Dad were making a mess in Susan's kitchen preparing Chilli Relleno.
He is one of the finest two men I have ever known and he saved my life when I needed a man to do so, not a doctor.
The empirical world has lost a treasure beyond measure, but the kingdom of God has gained an Angel beyond comparison.*

John M. Schmit

John M. Schmit - May 02, 2015 at 12:04 PM

SU

“ Dear Sue and Family -

I am so sorry to hear of Galen's passing. He and Dr Martinez were the first Radiologists' I worked with straight out of x-ray school. He was one of the coolest, patient, and low key doctors I have ever had the pleasure to work with. I remember thinking how perfect you two were for each other. Good memories of his sense of humor and knowledge and how he treated us with respect. A really good man.
Sue Mocnik (Beining)

Sue - May 02, 2015 at 10:15 AM

MR

“ *Having lost my husband 20 years ago, I can promise you that a time will come when the happy memories will overcome the grief and you will remember and share all the many ways he touched yours and others lives. I am one of those people whose life Galen touched and among the hundreds..if not more..who will never forget him. Sorry I can't be there to celebrate his life with you but I am working in N.M. presently. My thoughts and prayers...Melissa Ruffner...SJA class of '59*

melissa ruffner - May 01, 2015 at 07:08 AM

DG

“ Dear Sue and family,
Ron and I are saddened by the news of Galen's passing. I have so many memories....the most important one is what a great BOSS he was!! He was always patient and kind. I learned so much from him! What stands out the most, is his knowing by the look on my face (when I came to his office with less than stellar news) to hand me a box of Kleenex because he knew I would cry. He never lost his temp, or his cool, so when I screwed up, I felt so bad, it made me cry, because he was always so gracious about it. Even on the day I spilled coffee on the new CT machine, which rendered it useless to the tune of 3500.00 dollars!!!
Then there was the year that Galen, Sue, Ron and I dressed up as the California Raisins for the big Halloween costume party!! We danced in with a boom box blaring "I Heard it Through The Grape Vine"....great costumes thanks to Sue, and we should have won "Best Costume", but we didn't. Bless you all in this sad time. May you all find Peace in this difficult time. Ron and Diann Gardner

Diann and Ron Gardner - April 29, 2015 at 08:32 PM

SG

“ Dear Sue, Duane and I were saddened to hear of Galen's departure. Just wanted you to know you are, and will be, in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Shiny Groce

Shiny Groce - April 29, 2015 at 05:10 PM

FD

“ I was a lab tech at the hospital in Prescott and Galen was a radiologist. He was a good guy to work with. I want to give my condolences to you and the family.

Frank Domitrovits

Frank Domitrovits - April 29, 2015 at 03:19 PM

KS

“ Thank you for all the love you gave to Carter all those many eons ago. My how time flies. God has given you the strength for the battle finished and will give you strength for the one you fight now. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Dave and Kay Smith

Kay Smith - April 29, 2015 at 10:18 AM

JC

“ Dear Susan and Family: I am so sorry to hear of Galen's passing. I was always so happy to run into him at the college, or out and about. His great personality and zest for living were contagious. He struggled for so many years with great fortitude and determination and set an amazing example for your family, as well as all his friends and acquaintances. My prayers are with you and yours. Judy (Davis) Clothier

judy clothier - April 29, 2015 at 09:24 AM

GT

I knew Galen as one of his patients over several years at YRMC and for many years also knew him as a customer of my bookstore in Prescott.

*A fine gentleman who will missed.
May he rest in peace.*

George Thomson

George Thomson - April 29, 2015 at 07:33 PM

MG

My dear Susan and Family - I just keep thinking how great he sounded on the telephone the week before he passed. I had no idea he was so very close.

I almost died and the nurses told me that Galen came and stood by my bed every day and would say "wake up Maggie"! He had such compassion and understanding for patients and staff. He was an amazing man - if he wanted to "do something" you can be very sure he was going to accomplish it.

I could write a book with all the laughs we shared for years. Such joy he brought into my life. The funniest story is when you took his favorite sweater to the thrift store? He was having a tantrum in his office and the techs told me to go check on him. Too funny to tell all in this space but I laughed so much I cried!!

He LOVED his family dearly and spoke of you all daily!!

With love to my friend and much respect - Maggie Gullede

Margaret "Maggie" Gullede - May 01, 2015 at 11:09 PM

MG

Dear Sweet Susan and Family -

His voice seemed so strong when I spoke to him last just a week before he passed. It is so like him to just fight the fight to the very end! The nurses told me that when I almost died he came up to ICU every day and stood at my bedside and would say, "Maggie wake up". I will be forever grateful to him for his unconditional acceptance and friendship.

We shared so many laughs and good times. The best story is of the day Susan took his "favorite" sweater to the Thrift Store. The techs came and told me I better go talk with him as he was in his office having a tantrum? I laughed so much I was crying. I know you remember that day Susan as I had to call you at home! He was SO funny.

His humility and compassion touched many, many lives. Patients and staff had such respect and appreciation for Galen. He helped me to change the direction of my life.

God Speed my friend and I KNOW you have arrived

Maggie Gullede

Margaret Gullede - May 02, 2015 at 07:35 AM

JS

For my Loving Aunt Susan and Family:

I will always remember Galen's laugh and wonderful smile with that sparkle in his eye. Especially when he and Dad would make a mess in the kitchen preparing Chile Relleno.

Galen is one of the finest two men I have ever known and I will be eternally grateful for him. He literally saved my life when I needed a man to do so, not a doctor.

The empirical world has lost a treasure beyond measure, but the Kingdom of God now has an Angel beyond comparison.

John M. Schmit

John M Schmit - May 02, 2015 at 11:56 AM

JD

Dear Susan and Family , My thoughts and prayers are with you. Your wonderful family is evidence of Galen's incredible talents and spirit.

Janeth Dow

Janeth Dow - May 02, 2015 at 05:24 PM