



Dr. Christopher John Rich

February 29, 1956 - January 19, 2019

Services for Christopher John Rich, MD, MBA will be held at 1 PM, Saturday, January 26, 2019 at Calvary Baptist Church with Dr. David Brooks and Bro. Anthony Mangun officiating. Interment will follow at Greenwood Memorial Park, Pineville, LA under the direction of John Kramer & Son Funeral Home.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2019, from 10 AM until the time of service at Calvary Baptist Church.

Dr. Chris Rich, 62, of Alexandria, passed away at his residence, Saturday, January 19, 2019, surrounded by his loving family.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Ralph and Jean Rich and his brother, David Rich. A native of San Antonio, Dr. Rich was a three-year varsity athlete in football as an offensive lineman at LSU from 1976-78. He earned Academic All-Southeastern Conference honors in 1977 and 1978. Dr. Rich completed his undergraduate degree at LSU in Baton Rouge, followed by a Doctor of Medicine degree from the LSU School of Medicine in New Orleans, and his Orthopaedic Surgery Residency at LSU in 1988. In 2006, Dr. Rich completed his MBA at the University of Tennessee- School of Business. From 1988 through 2011, Dr. Rich was managing partner of Mid State Orthopaedic & Sports Medicine Center in Alexandria, LA, retiring from clinical practice in 2010. During his tenure as managing partner, Mid State received the honor of #1 in Orthopaedics for the State of Louisiana in 2004 and 2007 by HEALTHGRADES, "The Healthcare Quality Experts".

As an integral part of the NSU sports medicine program, he served as the Director of Sports Medicine and Head Team Physician for the Northwestern State Demons from 1990 until 2010. He has served in a voluntary consulting role with the NSU team physicians, sports medicine staff, and athletic administration in monitoring and addressing various medical and health-related issues that have become prominent in intercollegiate athletics. Dr. Rich also played a role in promoting best practices and evidence based medicine, as well as stewardship of financial resources related to medical care for the NSU Athletic Department. Dr. Rich was named and honored with induction for the "Distinguished Service Award" at Northwestern State University.

During his tenure at NSU, over 500 athletes sustained an injury that required a surgery.

The Mid State Team had an incredible rate of return to full sports competition of 99%. Dr. Rich's practice specialized in sports medicine, arthroscopy of the shoulder and knee, and knee reconstruction. Mid-State Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine renamed the yearly physical day in his honor as, "Chris Rich High School Physical Day".

Dr. Rich is recognized by his peers with induction into the Louisiana Athletic Trainers Hall of Fame in 2005. In 2013, Dr. Rich received the Outstanding Leadership Award in from the Louisiana Orthopaedic Association. He was recently awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Louisiana Orthopaedic Association for his service with this organization.

Dr. Rich served on the University Academic Medical Board with board oversight of business operations and management of the new 1.6 billion-dollar LSU Medical Center in New Orleans. He served as the Medical Director for the State of Louisiana - Office of Worker's Compensation Administration from 2011 – 2015.

He is Board Certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery, with a successful Recertification in 2012. Dr. Rich is a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, Past President of the Louisiana Orthopaedic Association in 2010, a member of the American Orthopaedic Society of Sports Medicine, and a charter / founding member of the Louisiana Sports Medicine Society.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife of 35 years, Vickie Rainey Rich; his three children, Jeffrey Rich, and his wife Kim Rich, and three children, Jack, Jesse and Sadie; his daughter, Margaret Rich and her fiancé, Will Burton, and his daughter, Stacie Keller and her husband, David Keller and their son, Wade Keller; and his brother, Tony Rich and his wife, Fran Rich.

The family requests that memorials be made to the Christopher Rich Scholar Athlete Foundation, In care of: Red River Bank, Attention: Ann B. Silver, 1412 Centre Court Dr., Suite 101, Alexandria, LA 71301.

Cemetery

Events

Greenwood Memorial Park

**JAN
26**

Visitation

10:00AM - 01:00PM

LA,

Calvary Baptist Church

5011 Jackson Street Ext, Alexandria, LA, US, 71303

**JAN
26**

Service

01:00PM

Calvary Baptist Church

5011 Jackson Street Ext, Alexandria, LA, US, 71303

Comments



“ Scott Ashbrook purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Dr. Christopher John Rich.



Scott Ashbrook - January 29 at 09:17 AM



“ Chris was one of my senior residents during my LSU Orthopaedic residency. He was great man and mentor to me. He was always a voice of reason and I will miss his humor. When we went down to the Accident Room at Charity Hospital with fellow Root Hog Robert Dugas, everyone got out of our way. He taught me how to really care for our patients and stressed in me how to foster great Doctor Patient relationship. Love you Chris Rest In Peace.

Tim Finney - January 26 at 02:45 PM



“ My wife and I are so sorry to hear the news of Chris's passing. He was such a great guy who was always a friend and a source of sound and great advise. His service to his patients, Orthopaedic colleagues, Louisiana Orthopaedic Association, and other organizations will be greatly missed. We will be praying for him and his family.

Dr. & Mrs. Robert L. Morrow, Jr
Lafayette, La

Robert L. Morrow, Jr - January 26 at 12:59 PM



“ Dr. Rich arrived in Alexandria about the same time and I did. He had a huge impact on the community through his sports medicine program and the annual athlete's physicals. That helped innumerable young athletes get a comprehensive exam at no cost by qualified professionals. So sad to hear that he has passed away at such a young age. Our condolences to his family, friends and colleagues. David and Nicole Holcombe

David J Holcombe - January 25 at 07:27 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Christopher John Rich.



January 24 at 08:03 PM



“ So very sad to hear of Chris's passing. He played an important part in my training as an orthopedist. Big and strong but fun loving and a very gentle heart. He will never be forgotten.

Greg Daus - January 24 at 07:02 PM



“ From the first time I met Chris as a medical student, eager to be an orthopaedist, to our times together at The Big Free, to our time together in Lafayette he was patient and encouraging in my education and development. I am a better person and surgeon for having known him. Sheila and I will keep his family in our prayers.

Bill McCarthy - January 24 at 05:10 PM



“ Have known him since my childhood. Has always been so supportive and I owe a lot of what I have achieved in my career to his support. Even when he was no longer seeing patients he was always there to listen and provide guidance. He always seemed to be happy for the success of others. I will always think of him with kind thoughts and admiration. I feel like he always made those around him better. Will be missed in ways that cannot be measured.

Kevin Garrigan - January 24 at 02:29 PM



“ It has been a while since I have seen my friend. I have so many memories of our times as "LSU Ortho Dogs" and our fun times riding on the same float in Endymion. I am proud to have had him as friend and mentor. Sandra, Blane, Lacey, Shaye and I send our prayers to his family.

Tom Alost

Tom Alost - January 24 at 01:14 PM



“ So very sad to hear of Chris's passing. He played an important part in my training as an orthopedist. Big and strong but fun loving and a very gentle heart. He will never be forgotten.

Greg Daus - January 24 at 01:26 PM



“ Carolyn Gunter lit a candle in memory of Dr. Christopher John Rich



Carolyn Gunter - January 24 at 12:06 AM



“ Dr Rich was a great surgeon & a kind man. I landscaped for his family years ago & thoroughly enjoyed knowing him & his wife.

Karen J Meredith
Spillway Specialty

Karen Jeansonne Meredith - January 23 at 06:22 PM



“ Care and Compassion Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Christopher John Rich.



January 23 at 03:52 PM



“ I was so saddened to hear of Dr. Rich's passing. He was a wonderful doctor. Prayers for his family during this time.

Donna Andries - January 23 at 12:16 PM



“ Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Dr. Christopher John Rich.



January 23 at 11:45 AM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Christopher John Rich.



January 22 at 07:09 PM



“ Governing Board of University Medical Center N.O. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Christopher John Rich.



Governing Board of University Medical Center N.O. - January 22 at 01:09 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Christopher John Rich.



January 22 at 12:50 PM



“ Bart and Dee Dee purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Dr. Christopher John Rich.



Bart and Dee Dee - January 21 at 09:14 AM



“ I have very dear memories of Dr. Rich as being one of his many patients. He was one of the best surgeons I have ever had! I was never rushed in and out of the examination room and he had a heart of compassion and true concern for his patients. He has performed surgery on my knees several times and I'm thankful for his kindness and caring personality.
May God bless and comfort his family in the days ahead. He has left such a legacy to our community and each individual he cared for. We loved Dr. Rich!!! May God rest your soul!
Pamela Watts

Pamela Watts - January 20 at 09:56 AM