



Dr. Andrew Gessner Briggs, III

May 16, 1931 - July 2, 2023

It is with profound sorrow that we announce the passing of Dr. Andrew Gessner Briggs III, who departed peacefully on July 2, 2023, at Charter Senior Living in Annapolis, MD. Born on May 16, 1931, in Richmond, VA, to Andrew Gessner Briggs II and Nannie Waller Briggs, Andrew graced this world with his presence for 92 remarkable years.

Andrew was a singular individual, admired for his sharp intellect, unwavering perseverance, and boundless kindness. His professional dedication as a psychiatrist at John Umstead Hospital in Butner, NC won him respect and love from his colleagues and patients, making a profound difference in countless lives for over 40 years.

Andrew's work ethic was unmatched. He approached his profession with unwavering commitment and a strong sense of responsibility, always putting the needs of others first. Despite the challenges he faced, Andrew never complained and instead faced each obstacle with grace and determination. His polite and good-hearted nature was a Briggs hallmark, a trait that his children adopted and carry forward as a testament to his influence.

Andrew's educational journey began at Hampden-Sydney College, where he demonstrated his academic prowess and athletic abilities on the track team. His love for sports later translated into a lifelong passion for competitive race walking, culminating in national rankings as a senior athlete. He further pursued his medical degree at the University of Virginia, where his interest in people evolved into the field of psychiatry. The pivotal moment of meeting his future wife, Aletta, occurred during his residency at the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill, where she worked in the lab as a bacteriologist. Their paths entwined, and they solidified their bond in matrimony on September 6, 1958.

Beyond his professional achievements, Andrew cherished his wife of 65 years and worked tirelessly to take care of his family. His devotion to Aletta was unwavering, and their love served as an inspiration to all who knew them. Together, they created a nurturing and loving environment for their three children, Linda, Carol, and John, who were deeply influenced by their father's values. Andrew's commitment to family extended to his role as a grandfather, where he found joy and fulfillment in the presence of his grandchildren, Diana and Erica Otis.

Andrew had a special place in his heart for animals, particularly his beloved dogs, Kiska and Snoopy, who have also passed. Their companionship brought him immense joy and comfort, and he loved them dearly. He is undoubtedly greeting them now with a smile on his face!

Andrew's interests were as diverse as his character. An avid reader, he spent countless hours immersed in books when not engaged in his daily runs or fast walks. His fascination for dinosaurs and time was ignited in his early years

and remained undiminished throughout his life. Andrew's artistic side shone through in his beautiful collage pictures, reflecting his appreciation for the arts, paintings, and museums. He also enjoyed exploring his ancestry, delving into the rich tapestry of his family history and connecting with his roots.

After spending his working years and early retirement in Butner, NC, the Briggs family relocated to Annapolis in 2015 to be closer to their children. In his final years, Andrew found joy in life's simpler pleasures. He treasured frequent phone conversations with family and friends and cherished visits from and to his children and wife, Aletta, whom he adored. Though an only child, Andrew also held a special place in his heart for his favorite cousin, Betty Waller, with whom he shared frequent nightly phone conversations. The advent of virtual communication allowed him to remain connected, bringing him immense joy and comfort.

Andrew's empathy, understanding, and good nature were the cornerstones of his personality. He had a genuine knack for engaging others in meaningful conversations, his curiosity and compassion making every interaction memorable. His impact on those around him extended far beyond his professional life, and his legacy will continue to inspire kindness and empathy for generations to come.

The family would like to relay that in lieu of flowers, donations in Dr. Briggs's name to a charity of your choice are welcomed. As we remember Andrew, we celebrate his extraordinary life marked by love, dedication, learning, and the pursuit of his varied passions. His memory will be eternally cherished and forever missed. He is survived by his wife, Aletta, his eldest daughter, Linda

Briggs Hawkins (and husband, Craig), his daughter, Carol Diane Briggs (and children, Diana and Erica), and son, John Thomas Briggs (and wife, Lydia).

Tribute Wall



“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ *Simplicity Cremation & Funeral Services*

A Memorial Tree was planted for Dr. Andrew Gessner Briggs, III - July 05, 2023
at 08:55 AM