



Dr. Ray Bellamy

August 13, 1940 - August 22, 2023

Raymond Edward Bellamy, Jr., passed away on August 22, 2023, at the Margaret Z. Dozier Hospice House, in Tallahassee, FL, after a brief illness.

Ray was born on August 13, 1940, in Macon, GA, to Raymond E. and Sarah Cornell Bellamy. He spent his early childhood in Georgia and Florida before moving with his family to Bakersfield, CA. It was in Bakersfield that Ray discovered his lifelong love of tennis and began to play competitively, starting with the USTA California Junior Circuit.

Ray attended Florida State University on a tennis scholarship and was elected Captain of the FSU Men's Tennis Team. After graduating from FSU with a biology degree in 1961, he spent two years at the University of Florida College of Medicine before transferring to the University of California San Francisco School of Medicine, from which he graduated in 1965. After an internship at Parkland Hospital in Dallas, TX, he served as a Flight Surgeon in the U.S. Navy. During his service he played on the All-Navy Tennis Team, where he was doubles champion. He finished his residency in orthopedic surgery at the University of Kentucky in 1972, and after the completion of two fellowships, was a faculty member at the College of Medicine there from 1972-74.

In 1974, Ray moved back to Tallahassee with his young family to open his practice of orthopedic surgery. Over the next 45 years, he was a dedicated and compassionate physician to thousands of patients in North Florida and South Georgia, many of whom are still walking with hips and knees he replaced at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, where he was a longtime member of the medical staff. From 2004-15, he was Surgery Clerkship Director for the FSU College of Medicine, where the Ray Bellamy Leadership in Medicine Fund is named for him. He retired from the practice of medicine in 2019.

Ray was President of the Capital Medical Society in 1992 and President of the Florida Orthopedic Society in 1994-95. He was a Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and elected to membership in the Association of Bone and Joint Surgeons. In 2009, Capital Medical Society presented him with the Outstanding Physician Award in recognition of his leadership, dedication, and commitment to the medical profession.

Ray continued to play tennis for his entire life and was ranked nationally for several years. He won and placed in numerous local, state, regional, and national tournaments in the open division and was the Florida 35-and-over singles and doubles champion in the 1970s. Notable wins later in his life include a 2000 State Men's Singles Championship, the 2006 Florida Cup Team Championship, and 2005, 2007, and 2016 USTA national doubles titles. He was elected to the FSU Sports Hall of Fame in 1992.

Ray was a passionate advocate for access to medical care and for the environment and was active in several organizations reflecting those interests, including Physicians for a National Health Program. He served on the Florida

Environmental Regulation Commission in the 1980s.

In addition to his parents, Ray was preceded in death by his first wife and the mother of his children, Carol Zimmer Bellamy, by a sister, Sarah Anderson, and by a brother, Richard Bellamy.

He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Jann Johnson Bellamy, his son, David Bellamy (Mary), of Tallahassee, his daughter, Diane Bellamy Perry, of Tampa, his stepdaughter, Rosemary Farrell (Kevin Malfa), and his stepson, Andrew Hart (Maria), all of Tallahassee. He is also survived by his eight wonderful grandchildren, to whom he was "PopPop": Hayden and Rowan Perry, Brantley and Olivia Bellamy, JP and Bella Evans, and Henry and Peter Hart. Other survivors include a sister, Penny Bellamy (Mark Simon), of Stony Creek, CT, and a brother, Alan Bellamy (Cora), of Pittsburg, CA.

A Memorial Service celebrating Ray's life will be held at 5 pm on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at Capital City Country Club, with a reception and visitation with the family immediately following.

For those wanting to make a memorial contribution, in accordance with Ray's wishes the family suggests Big Bend Hospice, 1723 Mahan Center Blvd, Tallahassee, FL 32308, or the Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare Foundation, 1331 East 6th Ave, Tallahassee, FL 32303.

Rocky Bevis and Kelly Barber of Bevis Funeral Home (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfuneralhome.com).

bevisfh.com) are assisting the Bellamy family with their arrangements.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

SEP **5**. 5:00 PM (ET)

Capital City Country Club
1601 Golf Terrace Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Reception immediately following the service

SEP **5** (ET)

Capital City Country Club
1601 Golf Terrace Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Tribute Wall

MS

“ Ray’s favorite pastimes were not only tennis. He was a consummate fly fisherman. As a youth he tied his own flies. He took a bunch of us relatives on several memorable expeditions to Montana and Argentina, where he helped teach us how to fish. One of the crowd teasingly called him the “Machine.” That was pretty close to right. I remember a days outing where I caught two trout and in the same period of time Ray caught 23. What a guy! We will miss him terribly.

Mark Simon - August 29, 2023 at 04:56 PM

DB

“ Dr. Bellamy replaced my hip in 1998 and it's still going strong. As I was living alone at the time, my mother came down from New Jersey to help me out for a few weeks. After meeting Dr. Bellamy my mom was smitten. The morning after my surgery when she came to see me at the hospital, the first thing she said was "Has Dr. Bellamy been by to see you yet?", not asking how I felt. Besides being an excellent surgeon, her reaction says what kind of man he was. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and patients.

David Beck

David Beck - August 27, 2023 at 08:33 AM

RM

“ I first met Dr. Bellamy at the FSU Tully Gym tennis courts soon after starting my job as the university's new mens tennis coach. That first workout lasted two hours and continued for many years . During our hitting sessions, we would take a water break and talk about current events. Does everyone remember when he debated a paid professional debater on global warming? Dr. Bellamy was an inspiration to me and many others. I will miss him. My condolences to his wonderful family. He talked with pride about you all.

Richard McKee - August 26, 2023 at 08:42 AM



“ I was so surprised and saddened to learn of Ray's death. He had been a long-term friend of my late husband, John Saffer, and they both shared a great love for the game of tennis. I too considered him a friend and wish we could have been closer over these last several years. Love to Jan and all his family. Marilyn Mahon

Marilyn Mahon - August 25, 2023 at 05:01 PM

CR

“ I am saddened by his loss. He cared deeply about the world around him. I met him at an anti-pipeline demonstration.

I attended social work classes in the Bellamy building in the 1970s so the last name has been known to me a long time.

My condolences to his family.

Christine Reilly - August 25, 2023 at 01:11 PM

PC

“ My dear brother-in-law, I will miss you so much! Our "preaching to the choir" political discussions, our wonderment of the birds and other wildlife that share our planet , our interest in our canine companions, which we always found a hoot!, our keen interest in desserts , that my sister, Jann , admonished, but we always seemed to work around. You have always been a very accomplished person in so many ways, but I will always remember most, you just being you. Patty Coulter

Patty J Coulter - August 24, 2023 at 06:11 PM

DD

“ I recall playing a set or two of very recreational doubles with Ray a number of years ago. It was both a wonderfully fun and extraordinarily humbling experience. We should all live lives as rich as his.

Doug Denes - August 24, 2023 at 04:21 PM

MP

“ It was a pleasure to work with him in operating room. He always was jolly, friendly and helpful. He had lot of respect and kind words for our help in OR.
We will miss him dearly.
Mansukhlal Padalia

Mansukhlal Padalia - August 24, 2023 at 01:54 PM

FD

“ Dr Ray Bellamy was an excellent physician who put patient care first and was always available to help everyone who needed him.

F. Ray Dolly - August 24, 2023 at 11:58 AM