



## Dr. Phillip F. Purpera

April 12, 1924 - October 9, 2018

Dr. Phillip F. Purpera died peacefully at home on Tuesday, October 9th, surrounded by his children. Dr. Purpera was known by many names: Phil to his friends and beloved wife, the former Flossie Landry; Dad and Papa to his five children, Toni Hare, Stephanie and her husband William "Bill" Bacque, Monica and her husband, Carl Breaux, Angie and her husband, Joe Moseley, and Phillip F. "Chip" Purpera, Jr. and his wife, Kathy; Pop to his adored grandchildren; Great Pop to his great-grandchildren; Doc, Dr. P, Dr. Purpera to his patients and colleagues.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Salvatore and Nunzia D'Aquila Purpera, his grandson, Patrick Joseph Purpera; his son in law, Courtney Hare; and his twelve siblings.

Dr. Purpera was an active member of his community, both civically and professionally. He became a physician because, he said, the only man in his hometown of Morganza who could afford to eat steak every night was the doctor. But Doc always preferred spaghetti and meatballs. He liked making money and he liked saving it. But if you did not have the cash to pay him, he would take eggs or other produce. He will be remembered by every one of his patients for his compassion, skill, and dedication.

Pop loved his family (especially gathered together at the beach). He loved babies, music, golf, olive oil, and sweets (especially ice cream, Aunt Rosie cake and whipping cream). He also, inexplicably, loved buttermilk, sometimes mixed with grape juice, which he called a "purple cow".

Phil was fiercely patriotic. He served his country as a flight surgeon in the Air Force. He was conservative to the core and never hesitant to share his opinions. Often liberally punctuated with curse words.

Papa was also a sentimental man; a song could bring him to tears. He was the son of immigrants and proud of his Sicilian heritage. He was also deeply faithful, a committed Catholic.

Great Pop lived a long and prosperous life and a Mass of Thanksgiving celebrating that life will be held on Wednesday, October 17, 2018, at an 11:00 AM in Our Lady of Fatima Roman Catholic Church. Reverend Nathan Comeaux, Parochial Vicar of Our Lady of Fatima Roman Catholic Church, will be the Celebrant of the Mass and will conduct the services, con-celebrated by Reverend Monsignor Charles J. Mallet. Homilist will be Reverend Michael J. Russo, Pastor of Our Lady of Fatima Roman Catholic Church and Deacon Tim Maragos will assist. Lectors will be his granddaughter, Alison Purpera, and his son in law, William Bacque. Gift Bearers will be Roxanne Hare, Melanie Bacque and Lindsey Breaux.

Entombment will follow in the Calvary Cemetery Mausoleum.

Pallbearers will be his grandsons, Christopher Hare, Benjamin Hare, Jonathan Hare, Phillip Purpera, III, Justin Bacque, Joel Bacque, Addison Moseley, Aaron Moseley, David Breaux, and Christian Moseley.

Honorary pallbearers will be his son in laws, in memory Courtney Hare, William Bacque, Carl Breaux, and Joe Moseley.

The family requests that visitation be observed in Martin & Castille's DOWNTOWN location on Tuesday, October 16, 2018, from 4:00 PM until 8:00 PM. There will be NO VISITATION ON WEDNESDAY.

A Rosary will be led by Toni Hare and Kathy Purpera at 6:30 PM Tuesday in Martin & Castille Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions can be made in Dr. Purpera's name to the charity of your choice.

A heartfelt appreciation is extended by the Purpera family to Hospice of Acadiana and Dr. Purpera's caregivers, Kay Lawrence, Lynn Temple, Denise Spruill and Gina Whittington.

View the obituary and guestbook online at [www.mourning.com](http://www.mourning.com)

Martin & Castille-DOWNTOWN-330 St. Landry St., Lafayette, LA 70506, 337-234-2311

# Cemetery

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# Events

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## Calvary Mausoleum

355 Teurlings Dr.

Lafayette, LA, 70501

**OCT** **Visitation** 04:00PM - 08:00PM

**16**

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Martin & Castille Funeral Home - Downtown Location  
330 St. Landry St., Lafayette, LA, US, 70506

**OCT** **Rosary** 06:30PM - 07:15PM

**16**

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Martin & Castille Funeral Home - Downtown Location  
330 St. Landry St., Lafayette, LA, US, 70506

**OCT** **Funeral Mass** 11:00AM - 12:00PM

**17**

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Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church  
2319 Johnston St., Lafayette, LA, US

# Comments

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“ A tribute video has been added.



**Martin & Castille Funeral Home** - October 10, 2018 at 12:21 PM



“ We've missed u since ur retirement even more so now @ always

**The duhon fmly. We're patients of " doc** - October 10, 2018 at 04:22 PM



“ The memorial was beautiful!

My prayers are with all of your family.

Michael Turner

**Michael** - October 10, 2018 at 11:05 PM



“ Such a Sad Loss Prayers our to the family

**Brian** - October 14, 2018 at 11:48 AM



“ My mother (Becky Ritchie) was Dr. Phil's niece. Her father, my grandfather, was Phil's brother, Nip (Ignatious Peter Purpera, Sr.).

A neighbor noticed the name in the newspaper and showed my mother the obituary. She called me and let me know. We both send our deepest condolences to everyone who knew and loved Phil.

Vesuvi Timeaux  
Chicago, IL

Becky Ritchie  
St. Francisville, LA

**Vesuvi Timeaux** - October 19, 2018 at 03:20 PM



“ Ann and I extend our deepest sympathies to the family of Dr. Purpera. I have some fond memories of this well respected family physician. Dr. P was quick to share a thoughtful straight to the point medical observation (many times in no uncertain terms!) and he made sure that every one of his patients received the care they

needed. Early in my career as a GI consultant here in Lafayette I had the privilege to occasionally play a round golf with this gentleman and his peers and it was a joy to hear him proudly talk about his family while somehow managing to colorfully speak about his golf shortcomings which, by the way, did not include his short game! He will be missed but not forgotten.

Patrick Herrington MD

Patrick Herrington MD - October 17, 2018 at 10:40 PM

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“ To Dr. Purpera’s family, I am sorry for your loss. I was blessed to have him as my doctor many years ago when I lived in Lafayette. I will remember him fondly. Your family will be in my prayers.



Tammy Segura Himel - October 17, 2018 at 12:34 AM

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“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Phillip F. Purpera.



October 16, 2018 at 06:53 PM

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“ I want to start by saying Dr Purpera was a fantastic person and a great friend to me and my family. He has been my doctor since I was 4 yrs old. But let me begin with my dad and mom we’re friends with him and your mom, Bill and Beverly Simma. They knew him in lake Charles at Chennault air base. He would make a house call if more than 2 of us were sick, then he would call John Domingue who would go to his pharmacy get the medication and bring it over to him at the house. He pierced my ears when I was 14 because there was nowhere to get that done in the early 60’s. He performed the blood test for my husband and I when we got married. Went to Mexico and consumed Hersey bars and beer because he couldn’t get sick that way. I made an appointment his last week that he worked to hug his neck and tell him thank you for all of the years, I cried quite a bit, he just rolled his eyes like he could. All I

can say is this world lost one of the sweetest, nicest men in the world. Thank you for sharing him all of these years. Deborah Simma Fontenot

**Deborah Simma Fontenot** - October 16, 2018 at 09:37 AM

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“ A life well lived, sorry for your loss. Kathy Crowell

**Kathy J Crowell** - October 14, 2018 at 07:58 PM

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“ To the entire Purpera family: What a wonderfully written obit on a very fascinating man. Being neighbors with the Purpera family while growing up on Twin Oaks, it was always an adventure when I encountered Dr. Purpera. I never really knew what he would say. I guess 100 percent of the time he was joking with me, but he sure kept me off-balance with his quick wit. He and Ms. Flossie raised a beautiful family with which we had a great friendship. What great role models Doc and Ms. Flossie were for us young kids growing up. He touched many lives and will be greatly missed. May God bless his family.

**Al Karre'** - October 14, 2018 at 02:07 PM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Phillip F. Purpera.



October 13, 2018 at 02:00 PM

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“ From: The Perkins Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Phillip F. Purpera.



**From: The Perkins Family** - October 12, 2018 at 04:23 PM

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“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Phillip F. Purpera.



October 12, 2018 at 03:47 PM

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“ Gail Liggio lit a candle in memory of Dr. Phillip F. Purpera



**gail liggio** - October 12, 2018 at 09:53 AM

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“ Condolences to all of the Family. Doc was a wonderful physician and person he left a true legacy in the thousands of people he touched. He was a friend to all of his patients and gave counsel to our Family for many years. John Davis and all of the Davis Family

**John Davis** - October 12, 2018 at 07:32 AM

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“ So very sorry to have just learned of Dr. Purpera's departure. We will miss him, too!  
Kathleen & Dr. Jim Godchaux



**Kathleen Godchaux** - October 11, 2018 at 08:52 PM

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“ How wonderful Heaven must be now with Uncle Phil and his loving family that went on before him to all be in the arms of Jesus. What a glorious reunion this must be! Only wish I could hear the conversations. We will all miss your quick wittedness, straightforwardness , honesty and generosity. Looking forward to our reunion one day.

**Nancy Purpera** - October 11, 2018 at 06:20 PM

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“ Mary Marshall Watkins lit a candle in memory of Dr. Phillip F. Purpera



**Mary Marshall Watkins** - October 11, 2018 at 06:17 AM



“ "Doc" was a fine man and the " Patriarch " of the family for many years.. Though he had retired when a meningitis epidemic hit ULL he vaccinated my daughter, Mattie, when he did his grandson, Phillip. We shared many of life's memories together . Our condolences go out to the family for the loss of a good man who lived a good long life. I know he will be missed by all.

**Mary Marshall Watkins** - October 11, 2018 at 06:24 AM

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“ Emma Duhon lit a candle in memory of Dr. Phillip F. Purpera



**Emma Duhon** - October 11, 2018 at 06:14 AM

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“ Dear entire Purpera Family, We are deeply sorry for the tremendous loss of your dear father. He was such a wonderful, kind and faith filled man. He leaves behind a beautiful legacy that will now live on through each of you. May your many years of cherished memories sustain you and bring peace to your hearts. May you take comfort knowing he is now at peace in his heavenly home. You will all continue to be

in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless! Our Love, Patti and Clay Justice

**Patti and Clay Justice** - October 10, 2018 at 07:30 PM

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“ May God bless you with my deepest sympathy !!! From Nell duhon @ fmly.



**The duhon fmly. We're patients of "** doc - October 10, 2018 at 04:20 PM

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“ To the family of Dr. Purpera, Dr.Purpera was my family Dr. For many years. I loved him. I can remember the little Bible Quote on the wall of the exam rooms that said something like this “Do not worry about what you will eat and what you will wear. Are not the lilies of the field and the birds in the air take care of by the Father.” I have been missing him. I’m so sorry for your loss. Sylvia Inzerella and family

**Sylvia Inzerella** - October 10, 2018 at 12:15 PM

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“ 50 files added to the album LifeTributes



**Martin & Castille Funeral Home** - October 10, 2018 at 11:17 AM

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“ What a wonderful doctor he was. I'm sad to hear of his passing. Prayers to his family and friends, I know he will be missed.

**Christina Lyon** - October 10, 2018 at 11:02 AM

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“ He was a wonderful man great Doctor and a friend of our family the Marion and Dot Stelly sending prayers and sympathy for all

**Dot Stelly** - October 10, 2018 at 08:33 AM

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“ Stephanie, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. He was our family doctor for years. We have many fond memories of him.

**Deane Bertrand** - October 09, 2018 at 11:09 PM

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“ Stephanie, please know you are all in our thoughts and prayers through this most difficult time. I will always continue to remember Dad with that contagious smile, infectious sense of humor, and his constant joie d'vivre. Please know that both Rose and I will always be here to assist you in anyway that we can or is needed.

**Ray Clement** - October 09, 2018 at 10:53 PM



“ Steph and family, I have so many memories with your family, starting in elementary school. Most make me laugh!!Doc was a great person with a big heart and with a sense of humor that couldn't be matched. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Love you, Renee

**Renee Enze** - October 10, 2018 at 10:22 AM



“ Dr. Purpera was so helpful and kind to me during our time of working together at Lourdes. And I was privileged to be friends with Chip, Kathy, and their family for years before that. My sincere sympathy to the entire family of this great man and may he rest in peace.

**Greg Robicheaux, MD** - October 10, 2018 at 10:57 AM



“ From New Orleans, in 1975, I was fortunate to come to the University of Southwestern Louisiana and began my journey in Lafayette. Monica became my "Big-Sis" in Phi Mu Sorority. The relationship with her family began then. Flossie and Doc taught me many customs of the Cajuns: "Get Down" at Albertsons , one of Doc's regular stops, and "Save the Dishes". Doc always said if you are tired...don't take a nap...take a walk. He did just that...never stopped "walking". The highlight for me one day, was seeing him at COSCO....walking up and down every aisle....WALKING in his life, doing the things he enjoyed. (He did many more things....cannot mention them here!) Peace to the entire Purpera Family. Jeanne Favors Daniel

**Jeanne Favors Daniel** - October 17, 2018 at 09:39 AM