



Dr. John F. Bigger, Jr.

January 7, 1939 - July 1, 2024

North Augusta, SC – Memorial Services for Dr. John F. Bigger, Jr., 85, who entered into rest July 1, 2024, will be conducted Tuesday, July 9th, at 2 o'clock at Grace United Methodist Church. The Rev. Dr. Cathy Jamieson and Dr. John M. Newell, III officiating. The family will receive friends at the funeral home Monday evening from 5 until 7 o'clock.

Dr. Bigger was born January 7, 1939, in Chattanooga, TN, to the late John F. and Thelma Bigger. He was raised in Anniston, AL and was a U.S. Navy veteran with two years of service. Dr. Bigger graduated from Duke University, received his medical degree from Washington University in St. Louis, where he also served as Chief Resident during his Ophthalmology residency. Dr. Bigger interned at Johns Hopkins Hospital and was a part of the Ophthalmology faculty at Washington University and the Medical College of Georgia. Certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology, he operated his private practice in Augusta from 1976-2005. During his career, Dr. Bigger was actively involved in the medical community and had a keen focus on professional development. He served on the board of directors, museum committee, and collections committee of the American Academy of Ophthalmology Museum of Vision. Additionally, he was a member of the Richmond County Medical Society, the Georgia Society of Ophthalmology, past president of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, and authored 28 articles related to Ophthalmology.

Dr. Bigger was a member of Grace United Methodist Church, where he was actively involved in the church choir and various committees. He was a member of the American Camellia Society, the Aiken Camellia Society, and was a member and past president of both the North Augusta Exchange Club and the Aiken County Human Relations Committee. Dr. Bigger had a great love for music and the arts. He was a board member of the Augusta Symphony and Aiken Symphony, was the founding president, board member, and treasurer of North Augusta Cultural Arts Council. Additionally, he was the founding president, board member, treasurer and trustee of endowment of the Arts and Heritage Center of North Augusta. In 2003, Dr. Bigger was honored by the Chamber of Commerce with the North Augusta Citizen of the Year Award.

In addition to his parents, Dr. Bigger was preceded in death by his first wife of 38 years, Sally Bigger; and a son, Bill Bigger. Survivors include his wife of 25 years, Carolyn "C.J." Bigger; his children, Bob Bigger (Mary Anne), David Bigger, Robbie Bell (Lisa), and Buffie Harper (Mark); a daughter-in-law, Leigh Bigger; a sister Linda Shonesy; multiple grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Honorary Pallbearers will be members of the Cokesbury Sunday School Class and members of Grace United Methodist Church Choir.

Memorials may be made to the Bigger Memorial Scholarship Endowment, c/o the Community Foundation of the CSRA, 720 St. Sebastian Way, Augusta, GA 30901

Posey Funeral Directors of North Augusta is in charge of arrangements (803)278-1181.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 8. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Following the Service, Posey Funeral Directors
1307 Georgia Ave
North Augusta, SC 29841

Memorial Service

JUL 9. 2:00 PM (ET)

Grace United Methodist Church
639 Georgia Ave
North Augusta, SC 29841
(803) 279-7525

Tribute Wall



“ *Posey Funeral Directors created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. John F. Bigger, Jr.*



Posey Funeral Directors - July 05, 2024 at 07:43 PM

MM

*We are sad to hear of the passing of Dr. Bigger. He added so much to the Aiken Camellia Club.
Craig and Mary Musick*

Mary Musick - July 09, 2024 at 07:46 PM

LS

Thank you so much! He was the very best brother!

Linda Shonesy - August 03, 2024 at 10:03 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. John F. Bigger, Jr..*



July 08, 2024 at 12:29 PM

HW

“ Henry & Cheryl Wynn planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. John F. Bigger, Jr..

Henry & Cheryl Wynn - July 08, 2024 at 12:29 PM

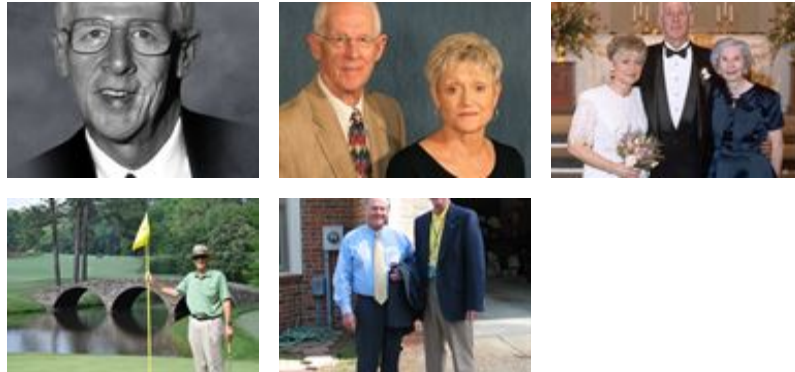
AS

“ Going to miss this wonderful person. He was a great photographer for the Aiken Camellia Society. He had hundreds of camellia pictures. He was always helpful in promoting our camellia projects and shows. Always a gentleman and a good friend. Anna Sheets

Anna Sheets - July 06, 2024 at 10:18 AM



“ 88 files added to the album Life Tributes



Posey Funeral Directors - July 05, 2024 at 03:40 PM

RK

“ CJ,

As a local optician, I have had the pleasure of meeting with Dr. Bigger on many occasions since we first met back in 1990. He was an extraordinary Ophthalmologist and friend. I will always treasure the memory of standing on the fireplace, giving him a hug so he did not have to bend over as far because of our height difference. My heart goes out to you and the entire family during this difficult time. I hope you can find comfort in the wonderful memories you have of him. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Rebecca Knott

Rebecca Knott - July 05, 2024 at 03:14 PM

EF

As a former retinal surgeon at MCG and in Augusta, I have only good memories of our relationship. He was an extraordinary person. May his memory be for a blessing.

Ed Fineberg

ed fineberg - January 18, 2025 at 12:43 PM

TS

“ *The Aiken Camellia Society purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Dr. John F. Bigger, Jr..*



The Aiken Camellia Society - July 05, 2024 at 03:10 PM

JD

“ *Janice Decker purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Dr. John F. Bigger, Jr..*



Janice Decker - July 04, 2024 at 08:06 PM

JD

“ *Janice Decker planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. John F. Bigger, Jr..*

Janice Decker - July 04, 2024 at 08:06 PM

JH

“ *I am thankful for Dr. Bigger's service to our nation in the United States Navy. It is men like Dr. Bigger that selflessly served to safeguard our freedom and liberty. I offer my sincere condolences to his family, may he rest in peace.*

Jeff Hoefs - July 04, 2024 at 12:53 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Dr. John F. Bigger, Jr..*



July 03, 2024 at 11:10 PM

TR

“ John was a wonderfully kind and considerate man. We worked together at the AHCNA for years and I will always remember how generous he was with his time and his knowledge. He was such a positive influence to me and many. He made fundraising fun. My thoughts are with CJ and the entire Bigger family. Anyone who knew John loved him.

Theresa Rousseau - July 03, 2024 at 10:47 AM

FS

“ Keeping the Family in my prayers. May God be with you.



Frances "Frankie" Felder Sich - July 03, 2024 at 10:26 AM

KS

“ My deepest sympathies to the Bigger family. John was a wonderful person. He started out as my doctor but soon became a family friend through the choir at Grace. He and my dad, John Renaker, sang in the bass section. They made wonderful bass harmony but their laughter was the best part. I'm sure Wayne remembers raising his eyebrows at the bass section many times due to them. I'm sure that the bass section in the heavenly choir just got stronger and is filled with laughter. Prayers for you all. Kathy Renaker Sloan

Kathy Sloan - July 03, 2024 at 09:43 AM

RW

“ May God bless this family in this time of sorrow.

Robert Whatley - July 03, 2024 at 03:28 AM

BB

“ Had the pleasure of working with Dr Bigger at University Hospital and Augusta Surgical Center for many years. Prayers for the family.

Beryl Barrett - July 02, 2024 at 11:44 PM

KL

“ Kathy and Loran purchased the Simply Elegant S pathiphyllum for the family of Dr. John F. Bigger, Jr..



Kathy and Loran - July 02, 2024 at 07:40 PM

JM

“ Cyndi and I are saddened to hear about John's passing. He was a pillar of the North Augusta community and will be missed. He was a good, honest, and faithful man. God bless and comfort CJ and his family.

Jim and Cyndi Meeks - July 02, 2024 at 06:36 PM

GS

“ So sorry for your loss. He was my daughter's eye doctor when she was younger and lived here.
Very nice.

Gladys Spires

Gladys Spires - July 02, 2024 at 03:57 PM

KS

“ John and my husband Jay Schlag were Sigma Nu fraternity brothers at Duke . John and Jay were part of the “singing” group that serenaded the group of women who had received their sweethearts fraternity pins, a ceremony held in the Duke garden each year. Sally and I were in that group. We were fortunate to enjoy that friendship for years , even for a brief time as neighbors in Marietta. Sadly Sally’s life was cut short but John was lucky enough to find 25 years of happiness with CJ. I will miss those Christmas card updates.

Katharine Schlag - July 02, 2024 at 12:21 PM

CB

“ Cassandra B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. John F. Bigger, Jr..

Cassandra B. - July 02, 2024 at 12:05 PM

KL

“ Katharine L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. John F. Bigger, Jr..

Katharine L. - July 02, 2024 at 11:55 AM