



Dr. Robert H. Pierce

APR 20, 1939 - JUN 23, 2013



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Dr. Robert H. Pierce

APR 20, 1939 - JUN 23, 2013

Robert H. Pierce, D.O., age 74, passed away Sunday evening, June 23, 2013. He was born April 20, 1939 in Lincoln, IL to Robert G. and Lucille (Laffey) Pierce. He was a graduate of Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. After his internship at Muskegon General Hospital, he joined Dr. James Lucie's practice in Fruitport. Since then he has owned and operated the Third Avenue Family Clinic. His practice was his passion and because of that he touched many lives. Dr. Pierce was the Fruitport school sports physician, and was a member of the Michigan, Muskegon, and Fruitport sports Hall of Fame. On August 30, 1959 he married the former Virginia L. Mounce in El Paso, IL and she survives him along with 3 children, Kelly (Dennis) Pierce-Hayes of Whitehall, Wendy L. Scott of Spring Lake, James Andrew "Andy" (Lisa) Pierce of San Jose, CA; 6 grandchildren, Tatum, Dakota, Montana, Riley, Alexander, Garrison; and his sister, Marilyn Joan Kilpatrick of Illinois. Dr. Pierce was preceded in death by a son, Robert Todd Pierce in 2004 and by his grandson, Trevor Pierce in 2012. SERVICES will be 1:00 PM Saturday, June 29, 2013 at the Fruitport Middle School Auditorium, 3113 Pontaluna, Fruitport, MI 49415, with Rev. Don Wood officiating. Burial will take place in Fruitport Cemetery. VISITATION with the family will be from 2-4 & 6-8 PM Friday at The Lee Chapel, 6291 S. Harvey St., (231) 798-1100. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Dr. Robert H. Pierce Family Scholarship Fund (to benefit Fruitport schools) c/o the Community Foundation of Muskegon County or Fruitport Congregational United Church of Christ. Share memories with the family at their On-line Guest Book at www.sytsemafh.com



Events

Dr. Robert H. Pierce

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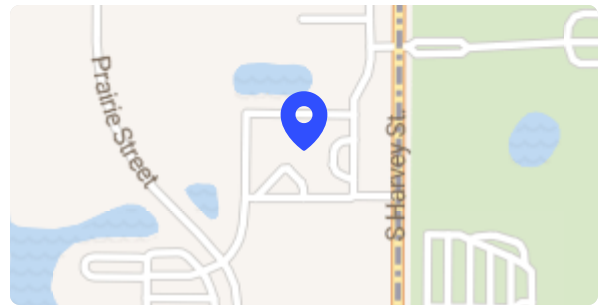
Visitation

Friday, June 28, 2013

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM ET

Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel

6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444



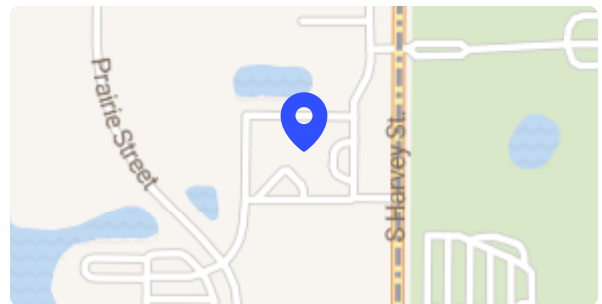
Visitation

Friday, June 28, 2013

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel

6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444



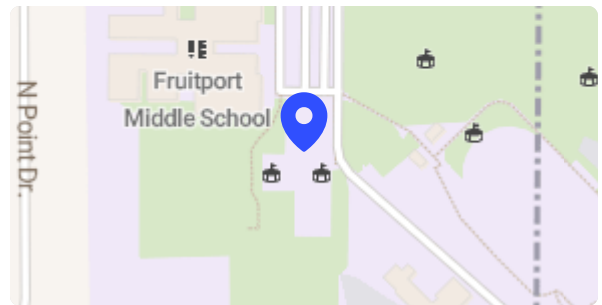
Memorial Service

Saturday, June 29, 2013

1:00 PM ET

Fruitport Middle School Auditorium

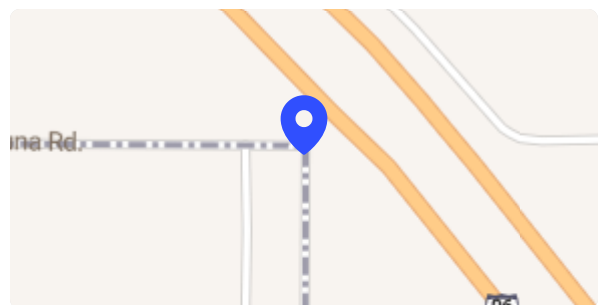
3113 Pontaluna, Fruitport MI



Cemetery Details

Fruitport Cemetery

6600 S. Brooks Rd., Fruitport MI 49412





Tribute Wall

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Laura Mchugh Pusateri posted:

DR. Pierce was a close friend of my Dad's. I remember Dad always being cheered by a phone call from him. During my Dad's battle with cancer he and his staff called back anytime my Dad called. My favorite story was when Bob called Dad after a huge score in the High Roller slots area at a casino! Something like 50 Grand!!! Talk about a lucky day! My Dad was lucky to call Bob a friend!

December 23 at 11:11 AM



Paul Medenbach posted:

My condolences go out to Mrs. Pierce, Wendy, and the staff from the office. Doc was a great teacher... I had the honor of working with Dr. Pierce, as a preceptor in the early 2000's. I learned more in a few days, then I did in many years of college. Doc Pierce was so full of energy, and always took the time to listen to his patients and spend quality time with them. I would occasionally stop by late in the evening on my way home, and I could usually count on seeing his vehicle at the side of the building. Those visits helped me understand his love of medicine. I asked Doc a question one time, and he would say, let's go look. We would go to the file room and he'd pull out a patient chart and show an X-Ray to illustrate a point. He knew everyone, and remembered their issues. His love rubbed off on my son, who is now in Osteopathic Medical College. I wish I would have known about his passing. I missed the opportunity to say good bye.

July 2 at 1:48 PM



Sandi Van Dyke posted:

Doc was so loved by many and will be missed. Our loss is God's gain...guess he needed a great doctor in Heaven. Bless the family for sharing Doc with us for so many years. He made Fruitport what it is today.

July 1 at 5:51 PM

SD Sandi Van Dyke July 1 at 5:53 PM
name should be Sandi Van Dyke



Marylin Van Hall lit a candle in honor of Robert.



July 1 at 3:08 PM



Tribute Wall

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Jim And Melody Huston lit a candle in honor of Robert.



June 30 at 6:30 PM



Nan Riekse posted:

The Fruitport community was surely blessed to have this man in our lives. Thank you Virginia and Wendy for sharing him with us. We are better people for having known him. Nan Riekse - 1 second ago

June 30 at 10:48 AM



Maureen & Lance Burt posted:

"Our condolences go out to all his family, Virginia and Wendy I know you will miss him terribly. He was a great doctor and friend to us and we will be lost without him to listen to our troubles. He was always available and I will never forget that he saved my life. Your in heaven now and taking a well deserved rest. Love, Maureen & Lance Burt

June 30 at 5:44 AM



Joe & Claudette Umlor posted:

This man is truly with God now and all of us will miss him greatly. He was not only our doctor, he was a great friend. My condolences to all his family and friends, especially Virginia, his children and grandchildren. He and his boys are talkin' up a storm in heaven and having a great time! Someday we shall see you again!!

June 29 at 8:45 AM



Friends Of Fruitport lit a candle in honor of Robert.

May the reunion with your son and grandson be a joyous one. May you rest in peace Doctor Pierce, you will forever be missed but be thought of often. You made the Fruitport Community what it is, ALL FAMILY.



June 29 at 8:20 AM



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CF

Charlotte Fisher lit a candle in honor of Robert.

My thoughts and prayers are with the family of Dr. Pierce and also to all of his patients who I know will miss his care. My heart goes out to Wendy who was there to the end taking care of him and to his wife Virginia.. My daughter Desiree Raven has been a patient for years and I know how very much she thought of him so know that he will not be forgotten by those that he treated with such loving care. Thinking of you today as you prepare to say goodbye. With Love, Charlotte Fisher



June 29 at 7:45 AM

RF

Raven Family posted:

To each of you in Docs family and the community we will continue in our prayers during and after this very sad time for all of you.Doc touched so many lives as well as ours and we are in gratitude for all of his compassion and caring he poured out on our lives.He will be deeply missed .You have our deepest sympathy and thoughts .Bill,Desiree,David,William,Amber,Keli,Heather Raven.

June 29 at 1:51 AM

LB

Luanne Brown posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with Doc's family. He was the most wonderful Doctor ever, he was so kind to my entire family. My parents, my children, my brothers and their families, my mom-in-law, myself and husband all counted on him. He was there for us so many times. There will never be another Doc like him. He was loved by so many.~Luanne and Russ Brown & family

June 28 at 12:24 PM

NR

Nan Riekse June 30 at 10:37 AM

The Fruitport community was surely blessed to have this man in our lives. Thank you Virginia and Wendy for sharing him with us. We are better people for having known him.

MK

Mark Kirby posted:

I am very sad to hear about Doc's passing, and will truly miss him. My condolences to all of his family and friends.

June 28 at 9:52 AM



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LH

Lucinda Hansen lit a candle in honor of Robert.



June 28 at 8:40 AM

LH

Lucinda Hansen June 28 at 8:41 AM
he is in gods hands now , have peace

SM

Steve Miller posted:

Virginia, Sorry to hear of the loss of Doctor Pierce you and the rest of us have loss a great, wonderful and kind man. Love Steve your gun lake waiter

June 28 at 6:50 AM

MA

Matthew Annis lit a candle in honor of Robert.



June 28 at 6:03 AM

FR

Frances Binkley Richmond posted:

I am deeply sorry for you loss. may you find comfort with your family and friends. from the binkley and Richmond family.

June 28 at 5:38 AM

FR

Frances Binkley Richmond lit a candle in honor of Robert.



June 28 at 5:34 AM



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CE

Chad Eckhardt posted:

Doc was one of the most amazing people I have ever met. He has touched and helped so many. The world will be a little darker now from losing his shining light! I am proud and honored to have know Dr. Robert H.Pierce. I will always hold his kindness, his laugh, and his record setting TD pass in my heart forever.

June 28 at 5:20 AM

JS

Jodi Zuber Smith posted:

Wendy,I want you and your family to know how much you are in my thoughts,may god bless you all/ I wish i could be there to give you a hug but i cant,so i will continue to pray!

June 28 at 1:52 AM

YD

Yvonne Diesel posted:

My most heart felt sympathies to Doc's family. He was always so nice, helped so many and knew so much! God speed, Doc, and thanks for everything.

June 27 at 1:21 PM

SW

Sheilla Wishman lit a candle in honor of Robert.

This is one of the hardest goodbyes I will ever have to say, Doc the only words I can say is you were an amazing man! Always there. I know that you will continue to be there as our ANGEL watching over each and every one of your patients continuing to care for all of us in your healing loving friendly way!My heart is with the family in your time of grieving, there's not a moment that goes by that I am not thinking of you... Please know if you need anything we are here!~



June 27 at 9:56 AM



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NB

Norm Boeve posted:

Dr. Pierce was a true Family Doctor in the best sense of the word. He didn't just take care of his patients, he cared for them. When he referred his patients for Orthopaedic care, his presence went with them. He called, wrote letters, assisted in surgery when possible and mothered them in the hospital. He was a blessing to his patients and the medical community. We will miss him too. He was a treasure. He will be missed most by his faithful Virginia and family and to them we extend our deepest sympathies. Dr. and Mrs. Norm Boeve

June 27 at 8:59 AM

KW

Karen Bowne And David Wilson lit a candle in honor of Robert.



June 27 at 5:57 AM

LH

Lori Hager lit a candle in honor of Robert.



June 27 at 4:26 AM

SP

Sandee Portenga posted:

Until we moved to FL fourteen years ago, Doc Pierce was our family doctor for many years. He delivered our children, took care of us and my parents Bill and Vera Norris (now deceased). He was like an old country doctor ... took the time to know you and listen to you while treating you. He will be deeply missed by everyone in the community. Our thoughts and prayers to his family. ~ Sandee and Jim Portenga

June 27 at 4:25 AM

LS

Lori Sutton posted:

So sorry to hear the news of Dr. Pierce's passing. He was my favorite Dr.,so patient, always had time for all your questions, and always figuring out all my aches and pains. I know I will not be able to find anyone close to take his place.

June 27 at 3:06 AM



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TM

Tina Mosley lit a candle in honor of Robert.

sorry for your lose,i work at noch and got to know him ,he was a great person and will miss him... tina

June 27 at 1:00 AM



MD

Mary Van Dyke lit a candle in honor of Robert.

June 26 at 7:37 PM



SB

Susie Baker posted:

Our condolences are extended to the entire Pierce clan during this time of loss. May Doc continue on in his wife, children and beautiful grand children as well as through the countless lives he has touched through his practice over the past forty-some years. He will certainly be missed by all.~The Baker family....Jeff, Susie (Williams), Morgan, Grant and Kelvin

June 26 at 3:41 PM

LL

Lona Levandoski lit a candle in honor of Robert.

June 26 at 2:48 PM



SE

Sally Edlund posted:

We will always have good Memories of Doc. and his family when we lived on Forest Park Rd. The pool and cook-outs are just a few. Doc was also our family doctor for many years. Our hearts and thoughts are with you during this time of grieving. Please know that you are not alone in remembering a truly wonderful Man that meant so much to so many. Love the Edlund's, Sally, Tony and Gina

June 26 at 11:28 AM



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CH

Char lit a candle in honor of Robert.



June 26 at 11:18 AM

KY

Kim Collison Yager posted:

Doc was my physician from the time I was four years old when he took over for Dr Lucie. He was also most of my immediate family's physician as well. He would send my great grandmother roses which she loved. He went above and beyond by often making sure my great grandmother and my grandparents were doing okay at home. When my husband and I were first married and couldn't afford much, Doc would discount his bill greatly so we could afford it. We've always appreciated that and so much more he did for us through the years. When we moved to Northern Michigan a few years ago, it was difficult trying to find a physician that would even come close to Doc...none have. The community has lost a great friend. Our sympathies to the Pierce family. We will keep you close to our heart and in our thoughts. Kim (Collison) Yager and family

June 26 at 10:35 AM

SH

Samantha Hodgson posted:

You were an amazing man doc. Rest easy. There will never be another like you. You helped so many families including mine. Love you. And love you to virginia ? keep that smile. We're all here for you and your family.

June 26 at 4:49 AM

JB

Jacquelyn Ball posted:

Doc and his family have given to the Fruitport Community in so many ways. Our Peace Garden at FMS exists today because of their generous donations. We love you all and will forever keep you in our hearts. Jacquelyn Ball

June 25 at 7:14 PM

JR

Jana Reenders posted:

One of the most wonderful people I ever worked for. My heart is saddened by this news :(

June 25 at 6:10 PM



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RS

Ruthie Spencer posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with Virginia, and the Pierce family. Doc will be remembered in many ways to many people. Jack & Ruth Ann Spencer

June 25 at 5:08 PM

LL

Laurie Lee posted:

Just thinking of Doc makes me smile. One of the stories when I think of him is when my youngest daughter Cassie who was about 6 at the time. She was chewing on some laffy taffy and Doc asked her for a bite (i think he had a soft spot for her) so she dug in her pocket and pulled out a dirty, linty, hairy piece of laffy taffy Doc didn't even hesitate he just took a big bite of that nasty piece of taffy patted her on the head and said thank you from then on Cassie always had to bring in some laffy taffy to Doc if any of us went in it was their own little thing. There won't be another like him and we were so lucky to have him for our doctor you might have waited awhile to get in to see him but it was worth the wait he always had a great story to tell you to cheer up your day. God bless Virginia, Wendy, Andy, Kelly and the whole clan.

June 25 at 4:55 PM

LL

Laurie Lee posted:

Just thinking of Doc makes me smile. One of the stories when I think of him is when my youngest daughter Cassie who was about 6 at the time. She was chewing on some laffy taffy and Doc asked her for a bite (i think he had a soft spot for her) so she dug in her pocket and pulled out a dirty, linty, hairy piece of laffy taffy Doc didn't even hesitate he just took a big bite of that nasty piece of taffy patted her on the head and said thank you from then on Cassie always had to bring in some laffy taffy to Doc if any of us went in it was their own little thing. There won't be another like him and we were so lucky to have him for our doctor you might have waited awhile to get in to see him but it was worth the wait he always had a great story to tell you to cheer up your day. God bless Virginia, Wendy, Andy, Kelly and the whole clan.

June 25 at 4:55 PM

DC

Debi Cribley June 26 at 8:42 AM

Donnie and I are so sorry to hear of your loss. Dr. Pierce will be missed by everyone that had the privilege of meeting him. Such a good and passionate man. Gods Peace and Love be with you all at this sad time. Don and Debi Cribley



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MD

Mark Dechney lit a candle in honor of Robert.

We thank doc for his many years of CARING for our family, and the community of Fruitport. We will miss him. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. Joyce, Mark, and Pam DeCheney

June 25 at 3:03 PM



PS

Pat Six posted:

DOC WILL BE MISSED, T HE WAS NO OTHER DOCTOR THAT GAVE SO MUCH OF HIM SELF TO ALL THE PEOPLE IN HIS CARE , SO MANY STORIES WE COULD ALL TELL. THANKS DOCTOR YOU WILL BE MISSED AND OUR PRAYS GO OUT TO THE WHOLE FAMILY

June 25 at 2:43 PM

BY

Bill & Mary Young posted:

Virginia and family, we are so sorry for your loss. Doc will truly be missed. Love, Bill and Mary Young

June 25 at 2:31 PM

JC

Judy Carlisle lit a candle in honor of Robert.

Virginia, we are so sorry to hear of the passing of Doc., he was truly a wonderful man, and I am so thankful that we got to know him... Since I have gotten my own mail route I sure do miss seeing you and Doc. I pray that you are doing ok... We Love You !!! Judy and Ron Carlisle

June 25 at 2:23 PM



KC

Kelly Chapman posted:

I'm honored to have known him, proud to be in his debt now and always. May God rest him, the kindest and best of men. Continued thoughts and prayers for Virginia, his kids, grandkids, and the employees of Third Avenue Family Clinic.

June 25 at 1:25 PM



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BA

Bill And Pat Adams lit a candle in honor of Robert.

June 25 at 12:16 PM



DW

Dorothy Witte posted:

It's so hard to find the right words to express the tremendous loss of Doc. He will truly be missed. My prayers are with you and your family. Dorothy Witte

June 25 at 11:12 AM

SR

Scott & Rikki lit a candle in honor of Robert.

June 25 at 11:08 AM



KW

Keith & Fran Walker lit a candle in honor of Robert.

June 25 at 10:35 AM



TB

Teri Buikema lit a candle in honor of Robert.

June 25 at 9:21 AM



DP

Darlene Payne lit a candle in honor of Robert.

June 25 at 8:09 AM





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Chris Beck lit a candle in honor of Robert.

Doc, we all will miss seeing you down on the sidelines - You have always been there for Fruitport - Now God has called you home - I guess God needs you on his sidelines now.The Becks - Chris, Lisa, Drew, Brandon & Charlene

June 25 at 7:59 AM



Graves Family lit a candle in honor of Robert.

June 25 at 7:52 AM



Lisa posted:

Dear Pierce Family and Friends,I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your dear loved one. Please accept my sincere condolences. I too have lost several loved ones in death, and the pain is fresh, even with the passage of much time. Thankfully, I have found relief in knowing that "The Most High God" is the "Hearer of Prayer", and a source of tremendous comfort in times of grief and distress.(Psalms83:18,Psalms65:2) Please be assured , death will soon be "swallowed up forever" and we will have the opportunity to see our dead loved ones again.(Isaiah 25:8) My family and I wish you and yours peace.(Phillipians4:7)

June 25 at 7:28 AM



Jim Stegman posted:

The world is impoverished by the loss of this kind and wonderful man.

June 25 at 7:20 AM



The Decheney's lit a candle in honor of Robert.

June 25 at 6:57 AM





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VS

Virginia Stuthard posted:

So much love, care and concern for the community of Fruitport....Doc Pierce was the golden man that had it all. Fruitport has lost his presence but gained so many memories that will last for a very long time. Our prayers and thoughts are with Virginia, Wendy, and rest of the family during this difficult time. Doc, you will not be forgotten, R.I.P.Randy & Virginia Stuthard and Mike

June 25 at 6:49 AM

AR

Audrie Raap posted:

There is a huge void in many lives, including mine, with the passing of Doc Pierce. Like Tom Fri said, he was always there for you,always! He was the guy that would go above and beyond to come up with a solution to "whatever" problem his patients might have. I always looked forward to seeing him even if I had to wait for awhile. He was well worth it! He had a great sense of humor and a good memory too! He touched many, many lives,and was taken way too soon! RIP Doc
Audrie Raap

June 25 at 6:01 AM

TF

The Pyman Family lit a candle in honor of Robert.



June 25 at 5:58 AM

TF

Tom Fri posted:

The world is a better place because Doc Pierce was in it. He gave so much more than what he received. He was always there for you, always.The community of Fruitport is different without "Doc".Blessings and sincere condolences to the Pierce family.Tom Fri

June 25 at 3:53 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Robert by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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