Woodrow Wilson Defore, Jr., MD

Woodrow Wilson Defore, Jr., MD, 66, died Monday, January 6, 2014, at Baptist Memorial Hospital – North Mississippi in Oxford, MS. A private family service was held in the Chapel of Waller Funeral Home in Oxford, MS with Rev. J. D. Shaw officiating. Burial followed in Oxford Memorial Cemetery in Oxford, MS.

Born in Jackson, MS to the late Woodrow Wilson Defore, Sr. and the surviving Elsie Defore, Dr. Defore was a graduate of the University of Mississippi from both the undergraduate program and medical school. He served surgical residencies at Emory University in Atlanta, GA and Baylor University in Houston, TX. While at Baylor, his residency was conducted under the supervision of the late Dr. Michael DeBakey, a cardiovascular surgeon and pioneer in the field. He was a member of the American College of Surgeons. Along with his father, he was preceded in death by a son, Andrew Defore. He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Carol Defore of Oxford, MS; a son, Matthew Defore of Oxford, MS; a sister, Diane Defore of Jackson, MS and his mother, Elsie Defore of Jackson, MS.

Memorials may be made to Grace Bible Church of Jackson, MS and his mother, Elsie Defore of Jackson, MS.

In Memory of Dr. Matthew J. Wall, Jr., MD

Matthew J. Wall, Jr., MD, 41, died Saturday, December 28, 2013, at his home in Houston, TX. He was a native of Oxford, MS and the son of the late James Harrell, Jr., MD of Oxford, MS and the late Elizabeth Lazenby Wall of Denison, TX. He is survived by his wife, Julie of Houston, TX; their son, Matthew J. III of Houston, TX; his parents; and his sister, Lindi of Houston, TX.

Dr. Wall was a graduate of the University of Mississippi and received his medical degree from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine. He did his surgical residency at the University of Mississippi Medical Center and proceeded to complete a fellowship in vascular surgery at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. He was a member of the American College of Surgeons and the Texas Surgical Society. Dr. Wall was on the staff of Houston Methodist Hospital in Houston, TX, where he served as Chief of Vascular Surgery and Director of the Vascular Service at the Methodist Hospital. He was also on the staff of the Ben Taub General Hospital in Houston, TX.

Dr. Wall is survived by his wife; son; parents; sister; and brother-in-law, Henry M. Stuckey of Houston, TX.

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News from the Texas Medical Center

Three of the region’s leading medical institutions – Baylor College of Medicine, CHI St. Luke’s Health and the Texas Heart Institute – have significantly expanded and enhanced their long-standing educational, clinical and research affiliations in conjunction with Englewood, Colo.-based Catholic Health Initiatives, which sponsors and operates the newly named CHI St. Luke’s Health.

Catholic Health Initiatives, one of the nation’s largest health systems, announced today that CHI St. Luke’s has partnered with Baylor College of Medicine in a joint venture for the new hospital on Baylor’s McNair Campus which will eventually replace the current CHI St. Luke’s hospital in the Texas Medical Center.

At the same time, Catholic Health Initiatives announced a new, strengthened affiliation with Texas Heart Institute which calls for a significant, 10-year investment in the renowned institution to expand education and research into cardiovascular diseases.

The announcements were made by leaders of Catholic Health Initiatives, CHI St. Luke’s, Baylor and Texas Heart at a news conference in the Texas Medical Center. The agreements signal the continued expansion of the TMC, with venues in place to accommodate that growth.

“‘When strong institutions join together, the result is good for all,” said Robert Robbins, M.D., president and CEO of the Texas Medical Center, which is currently home to two outpatient facilities owned by the college – the Baylor College of Medicine Medical Center and the Lee and Joe Jamail Specialty Care Center. Baylor and CHI St. Luke’s will jointly operate the new hospital.

In addition, together, CHI St. Luke’s Health, Baylor and THI will work to develop a state-of-the-art cardiovascular program on the campus of the new hospital that will be capable of transforming cardiovascular medicine through leadership in areas such as regenerative medicine and the development of next-generation medical devices.

“The agreements will bring to bear new capabilities and resources in an alliance that doesn’t exist anywhere else in the region,” said Kevin E. Lofton, president and chief executive officer of CHI. “This is a clinical, educational and research focused enterprise that we think will be capable of creating miracles.”

Earlier this week, St. Luke’s Health System filed the necessary paperwork to operate as “CHI St. Luke’s.”

Robert Robbins, M.D., president and CEO of the Texas Medical Center, said: “These two agreements are excellent examples of the collaborative spirit of the TMC.

When strong institutions join together, the result is good for all of us, and in particular, the communities we serve, both locally and globally.”

James T. Willerson, M.D., president of the Texas Heart Institute, which was created more than 50 years ago by eminent surgeon Denton A. Cooley, M.D., said: “Dr. Cooley and I agree that this is a wonderful collaboration that will benefit patients with cardiovascular disease throughout the world. Our mission is to prevent cardiovascular disease, and these affiliations will help us produce the kind of life-changing advancements that have pioneered for more than 50 years come even more rapidly.”

The joint-venture acute care hospital, which is part of CHI St. Luke’s Health, will be named CHI St. Luke’s Health Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center and eventually will replace the existing, 850-bed St. Luke’s Medical Center on the Texas Medical Center campus. The first phase of the project – a 250-bed inpatient facility – is expected to be open by spring 2015. The second phase, adding up to 400 additional acute-care beds, is expected to be completed in 2016.

“‘This is a relationship unique in academic medicine,” said Paul Klotman, M.D., BCM president and chief executive officer. “Medical schools usually receive support through academic affiliation agreements with their hospital affiliates. This is completely different in that we are part owners. We will be in this together, with joint governance, sharing the rewards and the risks. It is a novel approach to create an alignment that brings in the most cost-effective, high-quality care. And, it provides Baylor the Independence we have sought in charting our future.”

Wayne Keathley, formerly president of the Baylor College of Medicine Medical Center and Health Network, has been appointed to serve as president of CHI St. Luke’s Health Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center, including the existing hospital and the hospital that will be completed on the McNair Campus. He will be an executive of CHI.

In addition, CHI St. Luke’s Health and Baylor have signed an academic affiliation agreement that includes a wide array of cooperative educational and research initiatives. CHI, CHI St. Luke’s Health and Baylor also will develop a comprehensive cancer center on the campus of the new hospital. Baylor is now home to an NCI-designated cancer center, and the goal would be for a joint center to achieve comprehensive status.

Plans also call for community cancer centers across the region. Baylor’s research and education missions, as well as a large part of its patient-care mission, are not included in the partnership. The joint venture does not include Baylor’s outpatient clinics or its physicians.

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The announcements were made by leaders of Catholic Health Initiatives, CHI St. Luke’s, Baylor and Texas Heart at a news conference in the Texas Medical Center. The agreements signal the continued expansion of the TMC, with venues in place to accommodate that growth.

CHI St. Luke’s and Baylor signed a joint-venture agreement to open a new, acute-care, open-staff hospital on Baylor’s McNair Campus in the central area of the Texas Medical Center, which is currently home to two outpatient facilities owned by the college – the Baylor College of Medicine Medical Center and the Lee and Joe Jamal Speciality Care Center. Baylor and CHI St. Luke’s will jointly operate the new hospital.

In addition, together, CHI St. Luke’s Health, Baylor and THI will work to develop a state-of-the-art cardiovascular program on the campus of the new hospital that will be capable of transforming cardiovascular medicine through leadership in areas such as regenerative medicine and the development of next-generation medical devices.

“These agreements will bring to bear new capabilities and resources in an alliance that doesn’t exist anywhere else in the region,” said Kevin E. Lofton, president and chief executive officer of CHI. “This is a clinical, educational and research focused enterprise that we think will be capable of creating miracles.” Earlier this week, St. Luke’s Health System filed the necessary paperwork to operate as “CHI St. Luke’s.”

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At the Michael E.
DeBakey Department of Surgery Alumni meeting, the Department will present the Distinguished Faculty Award to Doctor O.H. (Bud) Frazier, and the Society will present the DeBakey Award to Doctor Kenneth L. Mattox. Twenty-two presentations from all areas of surgery will reintroduce alumni to the Department and showcase the work being done by former trainees across the country, as well as those currently at Baylor.

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Bold new alliance among Houston’s leading health care providers to transform care delivery in the region
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Born in Jackson, MS to the late Woodrow Wilson Defore, Sr. and the surviving Elsie Pitts Defore, Dr. Defore was a retired surgeon with the Lakeland Surgical Clinic in Jackson, MS. He was an active member of Grace Bible Church where he taught a children’s bible study and attended the men’s bible study group. An avid Ole Miss Football fan, he formerly worked with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Ole Miss. Dr. Defore was a graduate of the University of Mississippi from both the undergraduate program and medical school. He served surgical residencies at Emory University in Atlanta, GA and Baylor University in Houston, TX. While at Baylor, his residency was conducted under the supervision of the late Dr. Michael DeBakey, a cardiovascular surgeon and pioneer in the field. He was a member of the American College of Surgeons. Along with his father, he was preceded in death by a son, Andrew Defore. He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Carol Defore of Oxford, MS; a son, Matthew Defore of Oxford, MS; a sister, Diane Defore of Jackson, MS and his mother, Elise Defore of Jackson, MS.

Memorials may be made to Grace Bible Church, 304 Heritage Drive, Suite 2, Oxford, MS 38655.