



Dr. William Herschel Mitchell, Jr

July 28, 1935 - October 4, 2024

Dr. Mitchell was born at home in Athens Tennessee on July 28, 1935 to William Herschel Mitchell and Pauline Dake Mitchell. He passed peacefully, age 89, in Sarasota, Florida, on October 4, 2024.

He attended Ingleside Elementary and McMinn County High School, and the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, where he received a BS in Engineering Physics. He then studied mathematics for two more years at UT before beginning a career in industry, first with nuclear energy at Oak Ridge, then with NASA in Huntsville, Alabama, working on the Apollo moon rocket program under Dr. Wernher Von Braun.

After several years at NASA, he moved to St. Petersburg Florida designing computers for Honeywell, and finally returned to Huntsville as Senior Engineer for Chrysler Corporation's Defense program.

Having had his fill of commercial industry, he resigned to attend the University of Tennessee College of Medicine in Memphis, where he received his MD degree in 1969. He completed his post-graduate training in Florida at Tampa General Hospital, then moved to Sarasota where he practiced Family Medicine for many years. He was beloved by all his patients, and his many friends.

An avid automobile enthusiast, he frequently raced his Lotus Eleven sports car, and in 1962 won the Daytona endurance race. He then retired from racing. His mystery novel, "Born to Die" was published in 2020 under the pseudonym Victoria Adder.

Dr Mitchell was also an avid photographer, in both black-and- white and color, and nurtured in others his own passion for cameras, film and images.

He is survived by his niece Dr, Kelly Boyd of London, UK, his nephews Mitchell Boyd and Tommy Boyd both of Orlando, Florida. His older sister, Elina Jane Mitchell Boyd, died of ALS at age 38 in Athens. He is also survived by many cousins: Caroline, Rebecca, and Mary Beth Buckner from Knoxville, and Dr. John Spiggle and Tom Spiggle of North Carolina.

There will be no memorial service. His ashes will be scattered.

Tribute Wall

JF

“ *Bill was one of my longest and dearest friends. He was my home away from home when I needed a break. My buddy on trips, my photography mentor, so much more. This is a hard pill to swallow. Deepest respects to his family. Bill you are sorely missed*

James H.Wright, Tampa, Florida - December 03, 2024 at 11:31 AM