



## Charles Andrew Dennis MD

September 8, 1951 - January 7, 2022

Charlie Dennis, distinguished cardiologist, beloved son, brother, husband, and father of four, passed away on January 7, 2022, at the age of 70.

Born on September 8, 1951, Charlie was raised in San Diego, California. He attended Helix High School (1965 – 1969) where he excelled in academics, lead in student government, and participated and lettered in both basketball and football.

Charlie graduated from Occidental College in Los Angeles, California.

Following the sudden loss of his mother to a heart attack days before his graduation, Charlie decided to pursue a career in medicine. He was accepted to the University of Arizona's College of Medicine in Tucson. In 1979, Charlie graduated at the top of his class, and secured a residency slot at the nation's most prestigious medical program, the Brigham and Women's Hospital at Harvard University, where he served as Chief Resident. In 1982, Charlie began his Fellowship at Stanford University, where he studied cardiovascular diseases; the research he completed, published in numerous medical journals, would go on to transform cardiovascular rehabilitation and drastically reduce recovery times for patients. It was during his time at Stanford that, in 1984, he met Lisa Laubacher on a blind date. The next year the two were married and began their life together in Palo Alto. In 1988, they welcomed their first child, Caitlin. Charlie continued his research at Stanford as an Assistant Professor of Medicine until 1989. The family then moved to San Diego where Charlie worked as a cardiologist at the Scripps Clinic in La Jolla.

In 1990, Charlie and Lisa's second child, Thomas, was born.

In 1991, the growing Dennis family moved to Moorestown, New Jersey, where Charlie began work at the Deborah Heart and Lung Center as Chairman of their Department of Cardiovascular Disease. During his tenure, he rebuilt Deborah's program, transforming the hospital into the predominant provider of cardiovascular care in the tri-state region. In 1993, Charlie and Lisa's third child, Scott, was born - their fourth, Holly, followed the next year. During this time, Charlie was accepted to the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business, from which he graduated with a Master of Business Administration with Honors in 2002 and served as the class (WEMBA-26) Graduation Speaker. After 15 years with Deborah, Charlie joined Virtua The Cardiology Group in 2006, and subsequently became the Director of Cardiac Catheterization for Virtua Memorial Hospital in Mt. Holly until 2015. Most recently, Charlie worked as the Physician Advisor for Shore Memorial Hospital in Somers Point, leveraging over 40 years of experience as researcher, professor, and interventional cardiologist.

Throughout his career, Charlie was active in the American Heart Association, serving as President of the Tri-State Region and, later, on the AHA's National Board of Directors. He also chaired the Cardiovascular Health Advisory Panel for the New Jersey Department of Health for 15 years. Throughout his long career, he received numerous awards and accolades for both his caregiving and professional accomplishments, however, his proudest awards were ones received for teaching.

While Charlie lived as a remarkable academic and physician, he will most strongly be remembered as a loving father and husband. Always quick with a joke, a life-lesson, or an amusing vignette, Charlie was a source of constant joy, engagement, teaching, and love. He pushed his children to achieve their utmost, and constantly reminded everyone around him how proud he was to be their father. He knew the joy of marrying his best friend, Lisa, and spent 37 years caring and providing for their family. Charlie is survived by his siblings, Mike and Gini, numerous stepsiblings, in-laws, nieces and nephews, his wife,

Lisa Dennis, and their four children, Caitlin, Thomas, Scott, and Holly; he will live on forever in their hearts and memories.

A Rosary and Visitation will be held on Sunday, January 16 at 6:00pm at St. John Neumann Church, 560 Walton Ave, Mt Laurel 08054. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, January 17 at 10:30am at Sacred Heart Church, 260 High St, Mt Holly 08060. The funeral mass will also be live streamed via the Sacred Heart website. Reception to follow. Please note that facial coverings must be worn. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Charlie's name to the American Heart Association, 7272 Greenville Avenue, Dallas TX 75230.

Perinchief Chapels, Mount Holly NJ

[www.perinchief.com](http://www.perinchief.com)

Live Stream of Funeral Mass at Sacred Heart Church

<https://youtu.be/d3KnSOQeqJU>

# Cemetery Details

## Jesus, Bread of Life Cemetery

3055 Fostertown Rd  
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 16. 6:00 PM (ET)

St. John Neumann Church  
560 Walton Ave  
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

## Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 17. 10:30 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Church in Mount Holly  
260 High St.  
Mount Holly, NJ

# Tribute Wall

RW

“ I found this sad news when I was browsing the internet, wondering what had happened to certain people I've worked with over the years. I knew Charlie many years ago, in the mid-1980's, when he was a cardiology fellow at Stanford, moonlighting as an intensivist at the hospital I worked at in the San Francisco Bay Area. Charlie was a patient, kind, funny, smart person. He was a patient teacher to me, a brand new ICU RN, as well as many others he came into contact with. I always knew the night shift would go smoothly when Charlie was on duty--he never raised his voice, always made everyone on the team feel included and heard. A few years later, I had the pleasure of working with Charlie again at Scripps Clinic, as one of his clinic nurses. Again, he was a joy to work with, and I'm sad we lost touch over the years. I am so sorry to hear the sad news of his passing, at such a young age! I hope his family takes comfort in the all their wonderful memories together. Rest In Peace, old friend.

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**Rose Whalen** - July 08, 2023 at 01:02 AM



“ *Charles Andrew Dennis MD*

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October 29, 2022 at 11:57 AM



“ *Charles Andrew Dennis MD*

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October 29, 2022 at 09:53 AM

MC

“ *Sorry I missed it. I would have wanted to attend.*

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**MCS** - October 22, 2022 at 11:28 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles Andrew Dennis MD.*



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January 21, 2022 at 11:09 PM



“ *I had the pleasure of working with Dr. Dennis at Deborah Heart and Lung ctr. Dr. Dennis always had a big smile and was always welcoming with a word of advice or just a hello...Dr. Dennis will be missed but never forgotten.... Rest easy Dr. Dennis*  
*Angela Mallory*



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**Angela** - January 15, 2022 at 10:00 AM



“ *Angela lit a candle in memory of Charles Andrew Dennis MD*



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**Angela** - January 15, 2022 at 09:57 AM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Charles Andrew Dennis MD.*



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January 14, 2022 at 11:58 AM

JP

“ Lisa, sorry to hear of this news. Praying for comfort for you and your family... John Pagenkopf

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**John Pagenkopf** - January 13, 2022 at 06:34 PM

SM

“ Lisa and family you will be in our prayers.  
Deepest Sympathies,  
Suellen Monaghan

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**Suellen Monaghan** - January 13, 2022 at 05:16 PM

FM

*I worked with Charlie from 1991 until I retired in 2006. I was his assistant chair. we worked closely on several projects from process improvement to developing a new system wide computer system. Charlie was very intelligent and a hard worker. After we got to know each other we were able to work well with each other. We learned to know each other well. We supported each other through some difficult times. I learned to respect him and appreciate his abilities. It was a good 15 years. We accomplished a great deal and learned a lot on the way. Rest in peace Charlie.*

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**Frank Lumia, MD** - January 19, 2022 at 01:02 PM