



Dr. Roy Parker

The following passage is an excerpt from Dr. Parker's eulogy.

### **Remembrance and Honor**

**Georgia Sugg Parker & Roy Turnage Parker**  
**12/14/19-6/24/03            9/7/20-6/20/03**

June 24, 2003 by Charles B. Hammond, M.D.

We are here today to celebrate two lives, Georgia and Roy Parker. For 59 years they were joined by marriage and, amazingly, their deaths have occurred within 4 days of each other. One could not imagine Roy without Georgia - and equally so - Georgia without Roy. So while we grieve for the loss of both, they remain together today - and we celebrate their lives here in this place, united again. Roy T. Parker was a son, husband, brother, father, grandfather, physician, teacher, investigator, and a man who set out to change how ob-gyn was practiced, not only in North Carolina, but in the US. He was also a mentor, in the very best sense of the word, to me and to many other young physicians with whom he came in contact. In his role as a man of his family, Roy was adored by his wife Georgia and his two children, Nancy and David. Georgia was always at his side - in Durham and in many places all over the US and

the world. Despite a very busy life of medicine, he always found time with his children and always had stories of their accomplishments and dreams. He defined the role of an involved father, but he was also a wonderful surrogate grandfather for nearly every child he ever met, mine included. He could walk into a room and every child there came to be with him. My father died when our children were quite small - and they rapidly became Roy's. One of the most touching moments I had with my son, Chuck, was when he was a little boy and after the death of a family member. He showed me a box in which he had put his most valued possessions - a top, pieces of a chemistry set, a book and a few other things. In the box he had placed a note he had written: "In the event that I die, I want these things to be given to Dr. Parker." Chuck went astray - he became a lawyer, but Dr. Parker left an amazing legacy among many, many children - mine included.