

Stephen J. Clark, M.D.

May 25, 1955—January 8, 2012

Dr. Clark was born in Los Angeles, and pursuing his intention to be a writer he obtained a Bachelor's Degree in English from Reed College in 1977, and a Master's of Fine Arts in Fiction from Amherst Massachusetts in 1979. He then decided to switch to medicine, feeling that he wanted "involvement with real people" as well as crafting stories. Pursuant to this decision he went to the University of Alabama from 1982-1983, and then on to their School of Medicine from 1983-1987. His postdoctoral training, including his internship residency in Internal Medicine, and fellowship in Infectious Diseases, was also at the University of Alabama School of Medicine, where he later became an instructor in that field.

Stephen moved to Oregon and opened a practice in Infectious Diseases Internal Medicine. While there under a Ryan White Grant, he created a clinic for the treatment of AIDS and HIV. Following that he worked in North Carolina as an ID specialist as well as an internist and hospitalist. In 2003 he moved to Arcata, opening a practice in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases, as well as becoming Medical Director of the MRCH Wound Care and Hyperbaric Center. Written up in both Newsweek and Time magazines for his discoveries regarding HIV, he also has had multiple awards and publications regarding HIV and other infectious diseases.

Stephen was a genius and renaissance intellectual. He made his own telescope, including grinding the lenses. He wrote two novels, one nominated for The Mystery Writers of America Edgar Award in 2002 for the Best First Novel. He was an expert in computers, a fact which many of his friends relied upon. At the time of his death he was working on a television project. He was an excellent cook and exhibited photographer. There is really not room enough in this writing to list all of his accomplishments.

Stephen's loyalty to his friends was extraordinary. He was a generous, supportive, and caring man who was extremely modest about his own achievements. He was a sports fan, especially of the L.A. Lakers (his dog is named Kobe).

We will miss him greatly as someone we could talk to about medical problems, patients, as well as any other subject. He was informed and his insight into various issues was always interesting and often profound. He had an extraordinary sense of dry humor which was often missed by people. He was an excellent doctor and very good writer who was getting better every year. For those who really knew Stephen, his death is going to be felt for a very, very long time. We know that we will miss him greatly, and feel that our medical community has lost someone of great value.

Stephen is survived by his wife Fran, his son Michael, daughter Catherine, his mother Catherine Clark, and siblings William, Michael, Patricia, Herbert, and Robert.

## HONORING - DR. STEPHEN CLARK

### SPEAKERS

DR. LUTHER COBB  
CHIEF OF STAFF

MAD RIVER COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

DR. DAVID GANS  
COLLEAGUE

MICHELLE LEWIS-LUSSO  
WOUND CARE MANAGER

MAD RIVER COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

DOUGLAS A. SHAW  
CEO

MAD RIVER COMMUNITY HOSPITAL