

Dr. Bryan W. Fleming Jr., 71, died March 20, 2008, from respiratory failure.

He was born in Atlanta and raised in the Druid Hills area. He received a bachelor's degree from Emory University. He graduated from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in 1962. He served a surgical internship at Duke University followed by an orthopedic surgery fellowship at the Campbell Clinic in Memphis, Tenn.

He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1964-93, achieving the rank of colonel. He served as chief of surgery at Myrtle Beach (S.C.) Air Force Base and as deputy hospital commander at Homestead (Fla.) AFB. He volunteered to serve in Vietnam but was instead assigned to flight surgeon training where he served as a "back seater" until the 1970s. He served five years as commander of a MASH unit and chief of orthopedics and surgical services at the Air Force hospital in Lakenheath, England. He later returned to the U.S. and was stationed at Wright Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio, until his final assignment in the Air Force Surgeon General's office at Bolling (Md.) AFB. He received many decorations, including Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

Survivors include: his wife, Betsy Fleming of Woodbine, Md.; a son, Mark B. Fleming of Ellicott City, Md.; a granddaughter, Mary Fleming of Ellicott City; a sister, Mary Ann Fleming Rich of Clayton; a niece, Shirley Rich Williford of Alpharetta; two nephews, Bryan W. Rich of Clayton and John E. Rich and wife Wendy of Winder; and several grandnieces and grandnephews.

Funeral services were held on March 25 at Hines-Rinaidi Funeral Home in Silver Spring, Md. He was cremated. Inurnment will be May 1 at Arlington National Cemetery.

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