



# Magdi Gabriel, MD

JUL 15, 1932 - MAY 23, 2019



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Events</b> .....	Page 6
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 7
<b>Media</b> .....	Page 9



## **Magdi Gabriel, MD**

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**D**r. Magdi Gabriel was reunited in heaven with his wife, parents and brother on Thursday, May 23, 2019.

Dr. Gabriel was born on June 28, 1932 to Gabriel Gabriel and Mary Jacob Salib in Tanta, Egypt. He was the oldest of four brothers, including Moheb, Mamdouh and Moktar. Dr. Gabriel graduated from Cairo University in 1955. He went on to medical school, residency and was a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in The United Kingdom in 1960. While studying in the UK, he married Sophie Athineos, the love of his life, on January 20, 1962. While in England they had their first two children, Jasmine and John.

In 1966, they moved to New York after Dr. Gabriel was recruited by Albert Einstein Medical School to begin teaching what was at that time a revolutionary new procedure: the total hip replacement. While in New York they had their third child, Alexia. In 1970, he moved his family to Mishawaka, Indiana where their youngest, Christina, was born. He completed the first ever-performed modern total hip replacement in the state of Indiana. Dr. Gabriel and Sophie worked side by side managing their private practice in Mishawaka for several decades. He performed regular surgeries at St. Joseph Hospital in Mishawaka and Memorial Hospital in South Bend. He eventually retired in 2002.

Dr. Gabriel was incredibly passionate about his life's work and the real impact he could bring to his patients' quality of life. His compassionate care and surgical skill delivered years of joyful activity to his patients and their families. Indeed, it was the love of his own family and his joy in their presence that provided the inspiration for his approach to patient care.

He loved his family with unparalleled passion and commitment. He also spent ample time adventuring throughout the world, discovering places far and wide, with his wife, children, and grandchildren. He saw his many family trips as a way to stay



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connected and close, especially as his children grew into adults and started families of their own. In fact, whether it was family trips, annual fourth of July cookouts or relaxing weekends at the lake, his gift to his entire extended family was his amazing ability to create a warm welcoming space for family memories to be made. Some of his most memorable trips included taking his family members to Egypt, Greece, London to visit the Royal College of Surgeons, and his annual family Christmas trip with his children and twelve grandchildren. His grandchildren have always occupied a massive space in his heart and like the rest of his family, he would do everything and anything for all of them. He loved being his grandchildren's Pappou.

Dr. Gabriel enjoyed summers and boating with his family on the lake in Niles, Michigan. You could frequently find him swimming across the lake for his daily exercise. He absolutely loved the water and exercising regularly. He cheered on Notre Dame Football passionately from the time he moved to Mishawaka.

Dr. Gabriel was proud to give back to the church and community throughout his life. He was a devote and proud Coptic Orthodox Christian and attended church in South Bend, IN at St. Andrews Greek Orthodox Church. Dr. Gabriel was well known for his immense compassion and kind heart. He often times mentored and was a listening ear for many fellow doctors, nurses, family, and friends. Everyone wanted to be a better person after speaking with Dr. Gabriel.

Dr. Gabriel is survived by his four children: Jasmine (Michael) Schlitt, John (Imelda) Gabriel, Alexia (Peter) Kotsiopoulos, & Christina (Joseph) Strickler, his twelve grandchildren: Gabriella (Zach) Tucker, Michael, Nicholas, Athena and Sophia Schlitt; Tia, Melina, and Gianna Kotsiopoulos; Anthony, Cecilia, Nicholas, and Jonathan Strickler.

He is also survived by his brothers Mamdouh (Hoda) Gabriel and Moktar (Carmen) Gabriel and sisters-in-law Hoda Gabriel, Helen (Jack) Schinazi, and Mitzi Burnett. As well as many cousins, nieces, nephews, and their children and grandchildren, who called him Uncle, Dad, or Pappou. Dr. Gabriel felt so blessed and grateful for his longtime caregiver and dear friend, Olga Szucs.

He was preceded in death by his wife, parents and brother, Moheb Gabriel.

Visitation hours are scheduled from 10:00 to 10:30 AM Saturday, May 25, 2019 at the



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chapel of St. Mary & St. Mina Coptic Orthodox Church in Clearwater, FL. His funeral service will follow at the church starting at 10:30 AM. Dr. Gabriel's memorial service and burial date in South Bend will be announced at a later time.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to The Foundation of Saint Joseph Health System 707 E. Cedar Street, Ste. 100, South Bend, IN 46617 or Breast Cancer Research Foundation, 28 W. 44th St. New York, NY 10036.




## Events

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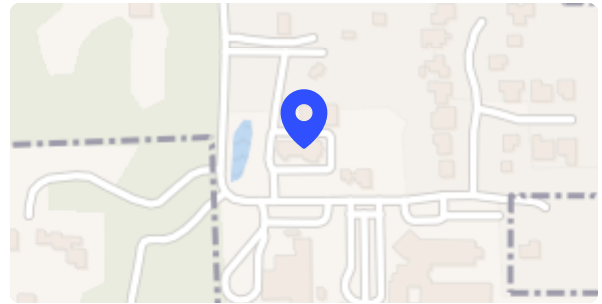
### Visitation

 **Saturday**, May 25, 2019


 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM ET


 **St. Mary and St. Mina Coptic Orthodox Church**

2930 CR 193, Clearwater FL 33759



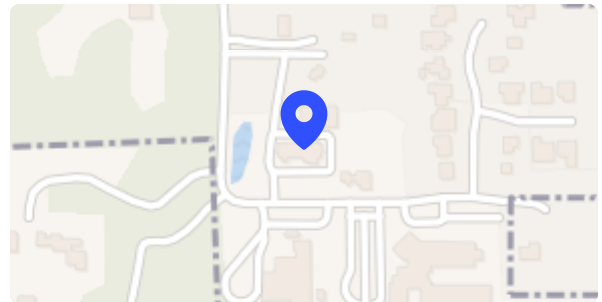
### Funeral Service

 **Saturday**, May 25, 2019

 10:30 AM ET

 **St. Mary and St. Mina Coptic Orthodox Church**

2930 CR 193, Clearwater FL 33759





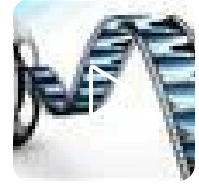
# Tribute Wall

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**Moss Feaster Funeral Home & Cremation Services** shared a **Video**.



May 24 at 11:59 AM



**Alexander Kowalczyk** posted:

We are so privileged to have known Dr. Gabriel and spent time with him. At Barron Lake, our great neighbors are part of the allure of the lake, and Dr. Gabriel was no exception. We loved listening to his many stories, and the way he could tell a tale. He was a gentle person with a personality thousands of times larger than he was. We are lucky to have known him, and his family that he loved so much.

May 25 at 5:45 AM



**Rosemary Cowan** posted:

Dr. Gabriel was certainly an amazing individual and Orthopedic surgeon.... He operated on my oldest son, and my youngest son, and also a Total Hip Replacement on my dear mother... He was the most kind and giving man i have ever met!!! You will truly be missed, Dr. Gabriel... Our loss and Heaven's gain for sure.... RIP.....

May 25 at 2:55 AM



**Adel Jacob** lit a candle in honor of Magdi.



May 24 at 10:12 PM



**Beth** posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with Dr Gabriel's family, I worked with him for many years at the old St Joe Mishawaka in both ER and OR. I have many fond memories of Dr Gabriel ! He was a great physician and so many people benefitted from his expertise!

May 24 at 4:48 PM



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**Catherine Hostetler** posted:

Jasmine and family, may your beautiful father's memory be eternal. Blessings to you and your entire family. His legacy of love and caring will live on in his beloved family. Catherine and William Hostetler

May 24 at 1:30 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Gabriel, family.



May 24 at 9:04 AM



# Media

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**Moss Feaster Funeral Home & Cremation Services** shared a **Video**.

May 24 at 11:59 AM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Magdi by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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