



## Dr. Bernard Finneson

April 23, 1925 - May 18, 2019

Bernard Finneson, MD, of Chestertown, Maryland died on May 18, 2019 at Heron Point, Chestertown, MD. He was 94.

Born on April 23, 1925 in Philadelphia, he was the son of the late Herman and Katherine Lieberman Fineson.

He graduated from Central High School with a Bachelor of Arts Degree, class of 1942.

He attended The University of Pennsylvania from 1942 to 1944, and graduated from Hahnemann Medical School of Philadelphia with a Doctor of Medicine Degree in 1948.

Dr. Finneson completed an internship at Mt. Sinai Hospital in South Philadelphia in 1949. He served a residency at Goldwater Memorial Hospital, VA Hospital Welfare Island, and Colombia Presbyterian Medical Center all in New York City, (1950-1956). He specialized in Neurosurgery.

His residency was interrupted by 2 years in the U.S. Army. 1 year in a MASH Unit in Korea. As the war ended, he became the private physician to the 4 Star General, John Hull, commander of the Far East (1950, 1951).

Dr. Finneson started his private practice in Neurosurgery in July 1956 in Philadelphia, PA. Later he became Chief of Neurosurgery at Taylor Hospital, Ridley Park, PA; Sacred Heart Hospital, Chester Hospital, Chester PA; and Crozer Hospital, Upland PA. In 1970 he developed The Low Back Pain Clinic at Crozer Chester Medical Center and became the director of that clinic. He continued his practice until he retired in 1985.

He was a member of the American Medical Association, American Association of Neurological Surgeons, The Harrison Society of the University of Pennsylvania and The International Society for the study of the Lumbar Spine of which he became president (1983-1984).

He was listed in Who's Who in America in 1963.

In August of 1975 he had an audience with Pope Paul VI in recognition for his medial service to an employee of the Vatican.

Dr. Finneson was medical chairman of the March of Dimes of Delaware County, PA during the 1970's.

In 1985 he retired to the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake with his wife. He enjoyed sailing, running, and writing novels. In 2006 he and his wife moved to Heron Point where he enjoyed joining various interest groups.

He precedes his wife Barbara, son John (Janette) of West Seattle, Washington: daughter Katherine Myers (John) of Worton, Maryland and two grandsons.

Services will be held on Saturday, May 25, 2019 at 1:00 PM at Wesley Hall Heron Point in Chestertown, MD.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to Kent County Humane Society or A charity of your choice.

Arrangements by: Fellows Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, 130 Speer Rd, Chestertown, Maryland.

Online Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.fhnfuneralhome.com](http://www.fhnfuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## Service

MAY 25. 1:00 PM (ET)

Wesley Hall at Heron Point  
501 E. Campus Ave  
Chestertown, MD

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Bernard Finneson*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Dr. Bernard Finneson*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Dr. Bernard Finneson*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Barb and family,*

*I had the extreme pleasure of knowing Dr. Bernie for over 4 years as his caregiver. I will cherish every moment that I spent with this wonderful man with a really great sense of humor. Oh how he could make me laugh.*

*Dorothy Arrigo*

Dorothy Arrigo - May 24, 2019 at 10:14 AM

TB

*Barbara ..... I don't know why today was the day I chose to find you and Bernie. The longing to connect with you both has been in my heart for a while. I can't even ascertain if you're alive. I see that Bernie passed at age 94. 104 would have been too soon. I have a collage my Mom put together of most of hers and Dad's friends. I have it hanging in my house. I actively miss many of you. I don't like being the oldest generation and having no one's advanced wisdom to call upon. I'm sad.*

*Absolutely nothing has been remotely the same since Mom and Dad transitioned. I have little contact with anyone from my past. No family. No old friends. MANY REASONS. Living closer to home these past 4 years. Before that, doing my never abating wandering Jew sojourn. My second book was released last July. GABRIEL AND ESTHER. I think you'd like it. It explains a lot about these past many years and some choices I made that affected all of my life.*

*If you are breathing could you contact me at:  
tonilisabrown1919@gmail.com.*

*I pray you are still breathing.*

*Sending love and blessings and warm hugs around your warm neck.*

*Toni*

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**Toni Lisa Browb** - June 17, 2023 at 11:49 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dr. Bernard Finneson.*



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May 23, 2019 at 08:05 PM

FT

“ *From BCBS - Product Solutions Team purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Dr. Bernard Finneson.*



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**From BCBS - Product Solutions Team** - May 23, 2019 at 02:13 PM

LL

“ Barbara and family, I am sorry for your loss and this time of such sadness for you. I am grateful that I got to meet and know Bernie a little, learn something about the person he was. I know that he was a very impressive, talented man who helped countless people. But to me, knowing him just a few years, first and foremost he was a very, very dear man.

*I send you all my love,  
Lori Lawson*

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**Loralie Lawson** - May 22, 2019 at 08:45 PM

PC

“ Kathy and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Even though we know they are better off than us at this point that doesn't make the pain any less. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

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**Peggy Clothier** - May 22, 2019 at 05:19 PM

FL

“ Kathy and family. Please know how sorry we are for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.



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**Frankie and Cathy Legg** - May 22, 2019 at 11:29 AM

SF

“ Shirley Foster lit a candle in memory of Dr. Bernard Finneson



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**shirley Foster** - May 20, 2019 at 09:51 PM

CM

*I'm so sorry to hear of Dr. Finneson's passing. Back in 1967 he saved my life. I was only 4 when he operated on me. I wasn't expected to make it but I did thanks to this incredibly talented man. I am now 54 and a nurse and think of him often when taking care of neurosurgery patients. He will always be in my heart.*

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**Cindy Perko McAlinney** - May 24, 2019 at 07:39 AM

KM

*Thank you for sharing*

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**Katherine Myers** - May 24, 2019 at 09:01 AM

LB

*“ Working at Heron Point for just the past few months, I have come to know and love many of the residents. "Mr. Dr. Finneson" was one of my favorites. Despite his failing health, he always made me smile, often with an unexpected witty remark. We attended the "Senior Prom" on April 12th, and he and I shared a few dances (chair dancing is an art, and he did it very well). I hope that he enjoyed it as much as I did (I think so). I will cherish that memory of him.*

*Leslie Beard  
Culinary Department- Tolchester dining room  
Heron Point*

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**Leslie Beard** - May 20, 2019 at 09:21 PM

LF

*“ So sorry to see that Bernie has passed away. He was certainly a one of a kind person. I remember years ago when Bernie was showing me pictures of the pope blessing his hands after the JFK assassination. Bernie was a very talented surgeon and a down to earth guy. I'm sure he will be missed by the many friends he made over his lifetime. Thoughts and prayers to the family.*

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**Larry Faulkner** - May 20, 2019 at 08:00 PM