



C. Gottfried Baumann

February 14, 1932 - May 19, 2025

Christian Gottfried Baumann, M.D. of Chestertown, Maryland passed away peacefully on May 19, 2025, at Charter Senior Living in Annapolis, MD. He was 93.

Born on February 14, 1932, in Markneukirchen, Germany, he was the son of Max Baumann and Elizabeth Braun Baumann. He spent his early years in a three-story home shared with his parents, younger brother Wolfgang, and maternal grandparents. His father ran a small grocery store until he was drafted into World War II. Gottfried was especially close to his grandfather and assisted him during wartime rationing by gluing food coupons to old newspapers.

At the age of 10, he joined the esteemed Thomanerchor (St. Thomas Choir of Leipzig), where he sang from 1942 to 1949—a formative experience that profoundly influenced his future. At 17, he briefly returned home before emigrating to West Germany and then, at 19, to the United States with the support of a Lutheran minister aiding refugees.

Driven and resourceful, Gottfried put himself through college, earning both undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of North Dakota, a medical degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine, and a master's in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University. He interned at South Baltimore General Hospital and worked in public health with the Baltimore City Health Department and USAID before settling in Chestertown to practice family medicine.

In 1973, he married Eva Schmergel, a German teacher at Washington College. Together, they built a life on their beloved 150-acre farm, Islandia, where Gottfried became a master gardener and devoted years to restoring a 100-year-old log cabin discovered beneath the farmhouse siding.

After nearly three decades serving the Chestertown community, he and Eva relocated to Sarasota, Florida. There, he cared for her parents and worked as a physician with the Veterans Administration. He embraced Florida life—walking Siesta Key beaches, attending the opera and ballet, and exploring local gardens and marine life. He also began painting, studying at the Ringling College of Art and Design, and later exhibited his work after returning to Chestertown in 2005.

Ever committed to helping others, he continued his medical advocacy through the Prisoner's Rights Information System of Maryland, providing evaluations of prisoner care until 2020.

A long-time member of the Presbyterian Church of Chestertown and its choir, Gottfried's love for music remained steadfast throughout his life.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Eva, and his children: Kathy Hock (Worton, MD), Roberta Baumann (Rockland, ME), Christopher Baumann (Myrtle Beach, SC), and Michael Baumann (Baltimore, MD); nine grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and his godson, David Ostwind (Annapolis, MD).

A service celebrating his life will be held at 11:00 AM on June 21 at the Presbyterian Church of Chestertown, with visitation from 9:30 to 10:30 AM. Interment will follow at St. Paul's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Presbyterian Church of Chestertown to benefit local charities.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 21. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Presbyterian Church of Chestertown
905 Gateway Drive
Chestertown, MD

Funeral Service

JUN 21. 11:00 AM (ET)

Presbyterian Church of Chestertown
905 Gateway Drive
Chestertown, MD

Burial

JUN 21 (ET)

St. Paul's Church Cemetery (Kent)
7579 Sandy Bottom Rd
Chestertown, MD 21620

To immediately follow the service

Reception

JUN 21 (ET)

Presbyterian Church of Chestertown
905 Gateway Drive
Chestertown, MD

To Follow Burial

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of C. Gottfried Baumann*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - June 09, 2025 at 09:06 AM

CS

“ *My heartfelt condolences to Eva and family in their loss. Dr. Baumann was an excellent physician and boss I respected greatly. My thoughts are with you at this time. Claudia G. Elliott Sills*

Claudia Sills - July 03, 2025 at 12:37 AM

DR

“ *Dear Eva: I am so sorry for your loss. Dr. Baumann was a fine physician and a kind person. Both you and Dr. Baumann were very supported of the staff, Board, and Friends of the Kent County Public Library. He will be missed. With deepest sympathy, Deb Reilly*

Deborah Mathiot Reilly - June 17, 2025 at 02:21 PM

GV

“ Gabe and Valerie purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of C. Gottfried Baumann.



Gabe and Valerie - June 16, 2025 at 08:56 AM

GV

“ Gabe and Valerie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of C. Gottfried Baumann.

Gabe and Valerie - June 16, 2025 at 08:56 AM

CC

“ I have so many beautiful memories working with Dr. B and having him for my Physican when I was young. What a wonderful man. Eva, Kathy, and family I am so sorry for your loss.

Chris Clough - June 05, 2025 at 01:43 AM

GS

“ Greg S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of C. Gottfried Baumann.

Greg S. - June 02, 2025 at 09:29 AM

HH

“ *Harriette Hall lit a candle in memory of C. Gottfried Baumann*



Harriette Hall - May 30, 2025 at 09:59 AM

TS

“ *Todd And Diane Smith lit a candle in memory of C. Gottfried Baumann*



Todd and Diane Smith - May 29, 2025 at 12:47 PM

KS

“ *Kathy Sanderson lit a candle in memory of C. Gottfried Baumann*



Kathy Sanderson - May 29, 2025 at 10:55 AM

HJ

“ *My condolences to Chris and family, Holly Johnson*

Holly Johnson - May 28, 2025 at 08:49 AM

JN

“Joyce Nicholson lit a candle in memory of C. Gottfried Baumann



Joyce Nicholson - May 27, 2025 at 07:52 PM

MW

“Marian Walbert Wyble lit a candle in memory of C. Gottfried Baumann



Marian Walbert Wyble - May 27, 2025 at 09:31 AM

KR

“I was working in the lab, it was New Years Eve I believe or some holiday. Dr Baumann came in with a shot of some sort. This would've been around 1981 or 82. I said “Dr Baumann, I cannot drink this, I'm pregnant “ He smiled and said it wouldn't hurt as he walked out. I smiled and put the shot in the cabinet, and didn't drink it but I never forgot this kindness. He was such a kind soul.

Karen Leight Russell - May 26, 2025 at 08:59 PM

DT

“David Thompson sent a virtual gift in memory of C. Gottfried Baumann



David Thompson - May 25, 2025 at 07:45 AM

CA

“ So sorry to hear this news. He was always very kind to me. Think of him every time I see the painting I was lucky enough for him to give me! Will be thinking of the whole family during this difficult time.
Cathy Abernathy (wife of Randy Grumpelt)

Cathy Abernathy - May 24, 2025 at 10:55 PM

J1

“ Our love and thoughts to the family; Gottfried was an extremely caring person, a wonderful GP, kind and thoughtful..
Dick & Betsy Durham

James Richard Durham 111 - May 23, 2025 at 01:53 PM

GS

“ George Short lit a candle in memory of C.
Gottfried Baumann



George Short - May 23, 2025 at 11:07 AM

LW

“ Louis And Betty Wheat lit a candle in memory
of C. Gottfried Baumann



Louis and Betty Wheat - May 23, 2025 at 09:18 AM

LW

Dr. Baumann was a wonderful man and doctor. He was so intelligent and a great all around person. Sending love and condolences to all the family!

Louis and Betty Wheat - May 23, 2025 at 09:21 AM

JG

Dr. Baumann was a wonderful man was privileged to count him among my friends.

JoAnne Parke Gerhardt - June 18, 2025 at 02:40 PM

FL

“ *Kathy and family, we are very sorry for your loss. Keeping you in our thoughts and prayers.* ”



Frank and Cathy Legg - May 23, 2025 at 08:40 AM

DN

“ *Diana Nichols lit a candle in memory of C. Gottfried Baumann* ”



Diana Nichols - May 23, 2025 at 07:42 AM

SQ

“ *Sara Beth & David Quinn lit a candle in memory of C. Gottfried Baumann* ”



Sara Beth & David Quinn - May 22, 2025 at 10:39 PM

MU

“ Marie Usilton lit a candle in memory of C.
Gottfried Baumann



Marie Usilton - May 22, 2025 at 08:22 PM

GS

“ George Short lit a candle in memory of C.
Gottfried Baumann



George Short - May 22, 2025 at 06:08 PM

BE

“ Sorry for your loss. Prayers for your family. 💙
Kenny and Betty Jo (States) Embert



Betty Jo Embert - May 22, 2025 at 05:57 PM

JS

“ Jeanette Stubbs lit a candle in memory of C.
Gottfried Baumann



Jeanette Stubbs - May 22, 2025 at 05:21 PM