



MARVIN C. COHEN MD

June 22, 1948 - August 11, 2016

Dr. Marvin C. Cohen was born in Jacksonville, FL in 1948 to parents, Fannie (Cohn) and Samuel Cohen. He spent his early childhood in Jacksonville and Waycross, Ga. In 1958 he moved with his family to his Kansas City.

Marvin graduated from Shawnee Mission East High School and received degrees from the University of Kansas in Pharmacy, Medicine, and Surgery. He was a Fellow of the American Board of Surgery.

Marvin was always known for extensive compassion for his patients and respect for the medical staff he worked with. He spent many years in private practice. Recognized for his service as co-director of Menorah's Surgical Education Office, Marvin was recognized as Physician of the Month at Menorah Medical Center in 1983. In 1994, Dr. Cohen served as president of the Baptist Hospital Medical Staff.

He served as an assistant clinical professor of surgery at the UMKC Medical School. He was a member of the Jackson County Medical Society, American Medical Association and American College of Surgeons

Marvin was employed physician of Cass Regional Medical Center in Harrisonville, MO for twenty years. In 2010 Dr. Cohen was the first recipient of Cass Regional Medical Center's "Physician of Excellence" award, nominated by the nursing staff for "valuing nursing efforts in patient care, fostering collegiality with nursing as well as being supportive of team concepts for caring. 'Dr. Cohen inspires trust through communication and demonstrates our hospital's mission.' 'Dr. Cohen has a philosophy of educating staff and removing barriers; therefore providing excellent patient care.

Marvin enjoyed being a "gentleman's farmer," riding his tractor, tending to his horses, cats, dogs, ram and whatever creature needed a home.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Denise Ashby-Cohen of the home. Marvin was preceded in death by his sister, Libby (Cohen) Needle and brother, Harvey Cohen.

The family will be forever grateful for the loving care and kindness extended by the staff at Cass Regional Medical Center and Drs. Richard Price and Samuel Brewster. A loving thank you to Nora Dahman and Abby Elliott. We are forever grateful for the support and love given by Vince, Cindy & Kylie and to our many friends – who were there with many offers of help. To our families – thank you for your support, love and prayers and constant

help.

Marvin was an extremely intelligent, kind, caring and delightful person. He will be greatly missed by his loving family, friends, co-workers and patients. He leaves us with fond memories to cherish for a lifetime; his spirit will live in to those that had the honor and privilege of knowing him.

Funeral services will be at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, August 14, 2016 at The Louis Memorial Chapel. Burial will follow at Sheffield Cemetery. Kindly omit flowers; the family suggests contributions to Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation, Little Sisters of the Poor or Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City.

Events

AUG **Funeral** 11:00AM

14

The Louis Memorial Chapel

6830 Troost Ave, Kansas City, MO, US, 64131

Comments



“ Denise,
So very sorry to hear about Marvin's passing. Knowing how many lives he has touched is heartwarming. May his memory be for a blessing and bring you comfort during this very difficult time.
Linda North

Linda Marks-North - August 19, 2016 at 05:47 PM



“ Dear Denise,
Our deepest condolences.
Here lies a great man who has left a wonderful legacy behind. He was larger than life and he lived it to the fullest. Now that he has gone may all the beautiful memories be a blessing to you and all who knew and loved Doctor Cohen. Please accept our sympathies for losing your beloved husband.
We are keeping you all in our hearts and prayers.
May God's choicest graces and blessings be with you now and always.
Sincerely,
The Little Sisters of the Poor

Sr. Kateri - August 17, 2016 at 02:48 PM



“ I love you Dr Cohen---I will never forget you...I have fond memories of you, your love for your patients was endless. May your wings spread wide and the wind blow in your face.....God is receiving a "true gentlemen" into his kingdom..... Ms Denise, May the memories make each day easier,...Believe in the poem "footprints in the sand", he has been carrying both you and Dr Cohen over the past 5 years. May the memories of your life together make each day easier. God Bless you



Ginger - August 16, 2016 at 07:50 PM



“ My memories of Dr Cohen are many. Although he could have taught us all with his many years of experience, he was always humble and wanted his patients to have the best. I loved the way he looked at Denise-with that sparkle of love in his eyes. He will be sorely missed. Denise I know you have many wonderful memories and I pray for your peace.

Cynthia Miltenberger - August 16, 2016 at 09:16 AM



“ Denise, you are one of those most dedicated and loving women that I've known. The memories of the 11 years that we spent in Kansas are made all the more wholesome by the family get togethers that you and Marvin hosted. My kids so fondly recall the horses and dogs and paddle boating in the lake. I know that their love of the outdoors has a lot to do with the times we spent by your home. When we moved down here to Florida, they were very proud to tell people that in Kansas they have "cousins that live on a real farm with horses and sheep...". Marvin was so obviously passionate about everything that he did. The stories he'd tell us were captivating. He will be missed. May his memories keep you smiling and comforted. Fondly, Naomi

Naomi Cohn - August 16, 2016 at 08:04 AM



“ For never before in story or rhyme
(not even once upon a time)
has the world ever known a you, my Friend,
and it never will, not ever again.....

You left this world a better place, Dr. "Marvin" Cohen...
Thank-you; you are missed....

Kara W.



Kara - August 15, 2016 at 09:35 PM



“ After reading many tributes, it is evident that Uncle Marvin and Aunt Denise definitely have the gift of hospitality. I always enjoyed visiting in Kansas City. They always hosted family gatherings and it was always a treat to talk with Marvin. He loved his animals and his farm. I remember the Marvin, Denise, and the dogs camping at cow camp in Colorado one summer. It was always fun to let the kids run around and see all the animals they collected. My condolences to Aunt Denise and to all the friends and family of Uncle Marvin.

Mark Fransen

Mark Fransen - August 15, 2016 at 01:45 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Marvin Cohen Memorial Video



Alex Ashby - August 14, 2016 at 04:21 PM



“ Nice tribute Alex and Uncle Tom!

Mark Fransen - August 15, 2016 at 01:53 PM



“ Denise, a BEAUTIFUL tribute to your loving husband. May he rest peacefully in your heart
...jackie

jackie - August 15, 2016 at 09:56 PM



“ I had the opportunity to work with Dr.Cohen as a patient and professionally. He was always kind, compassionate, considerate and an all around wonderful human being. He will be greatly missed!

Paula Carpenter - August 14, 2016 at 08:59 AM



“ Forwarded by Denise: Menashe writes: The highlight of my life as a young teen was being in the youth choir at KI synagogue. The Cohen/Cohn family were the leaders of this group. My brother and I loved the shul, loved to sing, and these kids shared our feelings. We were keen to hang out with older teens that were smart, nice, and downright cool. And could they sing.
Marvin was the brilliant one in the group, had bright red hair, which in itself was really

cool, and was the chazzan for the High Holiday youth service. The youth service was a complete service- nothing was left out. We were amazed and impressed, how he could sing his way through the entire 2-3 hour service, standing patiently at the podium in a room full of teens who had limited interest and attention span. My brother and I had limitless attention span, because he inspired us with the beauty of his voice, his calm, and sincerity.

Marvin had learned the service from a series of homemade vinyl records that the cantor had made for him, and his diligence and calmness in learning it was the same diligence and calm that he eventually applied to his medical studies and practice. Years later, when I was dating my wife-to-be, Bari Tulchinsky, visiting at her home one time, in walks the entire Cohen / Cohn junior choir leadership team, all grown up. It turns out they were my wife's first cousins, and these were the older kids I looked up to. By this time, Dr. Marvin was the go-to guy in the family for advice, guidance and care for every medical situation. I consulted him many times for issues in my family over the years.

The high holidays are coming up soon. I will be going to synagogue. I will watch the back of the chazan's head; like I always do I will be pretending to be a one man choir, imagining a shock of bright orange hair; and like I always do, I will really hear his voice and the melodies he planted in my heart. Like every year, I will remember Marvin and, be inspired.

*chazzan and cantor- prayer leader, performance quality

Denise Ashby-Cohen - August 14, 2016 at 08:18 AM



“ Bracha writes:

Marvin and I grew up together – first cousins living in the same city. He was about 2-3 years older than I. As a child, it seemed like he was always taking something apart, tinkering or reading comic books. As a little kid, the things he took apart were “small.” A clock, a radio, an old TV. I do not know if he was taking things apart in order to put them back together or taking them apart to see what exactly was inside. Mostly, I don't recall that he put stuff back together, as much as he took it apart, leaving all sorts of things scattered across his bedroom desk, to the consternation of Aunt Fanny.

As he got older he thankfully started taking stuff apart in order to fix it and put it back together. Things like cars. From this point onward, until he reached full adulthood, he didn't talk much to me. In fact, I rarely saw the whole of Marvin. Oh, I would see his legs, or an arm or even his head periodically. But not the full total Marvin. And that was because he was perpetually underneath a car. I wondered, “How many times do you need to change the oil in one car?” But Marvin was always doing just that.

Perhaps he was draining the radiator, changing hoses air filters or something else, to me at the age of 14, it seemed like one oil change after another. Every now and then, he might emerge for a short while, hands black, smudged face, red hair sneaking out of the dark grease in his hair. But the next time I came over to Aunt Fanny and Uncle Sammy's Marvin was in that same spot on the driveway, under the car.

Yes, Marvin was fascinated by how things worked. And as he grew up, he took that interest to an all new level. Now he wasn't taking clocks or radios or cars apart. He

was taking people apart – and putting them back together! An expert surgeon, well known for his precision and skill, in high demand. Marvin made “the big time.” How proud we all were of him. Imagine that grease monkey in the operating room! And then one very dark day, he had to take apart my sister Linda and put her back together. It took hours. I am sure that his skillful hands and focused mind helped her live a little longer than she would have had she not been his patient. He put everything he had into putting Linda back together – and for over a year, it worked! He told us that any other surgeon would have given up. But he persevered, cleaning, removing, mopping up as much as humanly possible of the disease that had grabbed hold of my sister.

So Marvin, I want to thank you on behalf of all of the women out there whose sisters and brothers you took apart and put back together, for the lives you saved and those that you extended, for your perseverance and your little-boy curiosity that took you so far in life.

Denise Ashby-Cohen - August 14, 2016 at 08:16 AM



“ I worked for Dr. Cohen for 11 wonderful years as his receptionist at his office. He was the most unique individual I have ever met. Sometimes it was just him and I there and I would do a little bit of everything for him, even helping him in minor surgeries in the office. He taught me so many things and was so patient with me. He always got a kick out of me, because he knew I didn't want to see really gross things (trust me, there were many) and he would give me his smile and ask me if I was okay. He was the most gracious man and was always so sweet and just so much fun to be around. We had a lot of good times in the office. He truly loved his patients. There were many times I would lay a pathology report on his desk for a patient that had cancer and it was never easy for him to call the patient and tell them, no matter how many times he had done it. He knew I liked lighthouses, so for my birthday he always would buy me one. He was always so excited to give me a present. Another funny thing is he took his wife one time to see Barbra Streisand and he couldn't believe how much the tickets were, he complained and would bring it up off and on the whole time I worked for him. But I knew he would of done anything for Denise. He loved Denise so much, he called her Tweetie and his eyes would light up when she would call or when he talked about her. There are so many stories, I could say so much. He will be missed and he touched so many lives. I know he touched mine and I will be forever grateful and thankful I had the honor of knowing him. We will miss you Dr. Cohen, you were a precious man.

Angela Roach

Angela Roach - August 14, 2016 at 12:20 AM



“ Dr Cohen was the first Dr that I worked with as a new RN 26 years ago. He was so kind. He always took his time to help me understand while building up this "new nurse". He will never be forgotten.

Beverly Starks - August 13, 2016 at 10:00 PM



“ Denise: So sorry to hear of Marvin's passing. He was such a wonderful doctor as well as person. My father Sol absolutely adored Marvin and spoke about him often. The feeling is absolutely mutual about adoring Marvin. He was really loved and will be so missed. Sorry this is coming late but we were at the airport heading to Florida when I got the news about Marvin. This condolence is sent with much love to you.
Beth & Warren Bayzman

Beth Bayzman - August 13, 2016 at 08:37 PM



“ A gentleman, statesman, colleague, and friend, Marvin embodied the best. He is sorely missed. Heartfelt thoughts and prayers for Denise.
Charles Venneman

CRV II - August 13, 2016 at 07:29 PM



“ Kimberly Gorman lit a candle in memory of MARVIN C. COHEN MD



Kimberly Gorman - August 13, 2016 at 04:11 PM



“ Kimberly Gorman lit a candle in memory of MARVIN C. COHEN MD



Kimberly Gorman - August 13, 2016 at 04:09 PM



“ Dr. Cohen will be missed by many. He would explain procedures where the patient and their family would understand. He was a Great person.
Alice Brunner, LPN



Alice Brunner - August 13, 2016 at 11:48 AM



“ I worked with Dr. Cohen many years ago at Menorah Medical Center when it was located near UMKC and we were all a lot younger. He was so much fun and yet was very diligent and capable as a surgeon. While a little guy in stature, he was taller than many of his contemporaries in character, dedication to his profession and energy. He was one of those Drs. that you knew went into the profession not just for financial gain, but to really help others. He will be missed. He is someone I look forward to seeing in the next life. My sincerest sympathy to his wife, Denise, and the rest of his family and friends. May God comfort you during this difficult time of his absence from your day to day life. May you be comforted also by the many happy memories of your lives together. Quite sincerely, Christine Ruth Wendorf Jennings, retired R.N., B.S.N.



Christine Ruth Wendorf Jennings - August 13, 2016 at 11:18 AM



“ Marvin was a valued & cherished member of the Cass Regional Medical Center Family... He will be remembered & missed... I am proud to have worked with & known him...

John K Hoffman - August 13, 2016 at 10:18 AM



“ Connie King lit a candle in memory of MARVIN C. COHEN MD



Connie King - August 13, 2016 at 08:26 AM



“ He was a great surgeon and a wonderful man. He always explained things in a way anyone could understand. As a patient he always took time to make sure I understood what my options were. He was a very kind and caring man. My prayers for peace and comfort go out to his family during this difficult time.



Debbie Hill - August 13, 2016 at 07:34 AM



“ Margie Brown lit a candle in memory of MARVIN C. COHEN MD



Margie Brown - August 13, 2016 at 07:09 AM



“ NORVEL JOHNSON lit a candle in memory of MARVIN C. COHEN MD



NORVEL JOHNSON - August 13, 2016 at 07:07 AM



“ Our prayers are with you Denise at this difficult time, we loved to hang out at your home and here all the good stories from Dr. Cohen. He was the best tractor driver (Hayrides), coolest doctor to sit down and talk to, his obituary speaks volume when it comes to fond memories of him & his horses. Love to you from the Johnson's -- Marlan, Norvel, Deuce & Bryce.....

NORVEL JOHNSON - August 13, 2016 at 07:13 AM



“ Dr. Marvin C. Cohen was one of the kindest and most sincere men I have ever had the privilege of knowing. Always compassionate with his patients and such a good listener. In the office, there was never a single evening as he left that he didn't thank me for my efforts that day in helping him. He did the same thing with every other member of his staff, consistently and without fail. Dr. Cohen was so much fun and always had that little twinkle in his eye, ready for just the slightest little thing to have a good chuckle about. He learned to catch a little catnap whenever he could. That was the life of a surgeon. There were many times that I woke him as he dozed in his chair before patients arrived. But when I woke him he was always cheerful and ready to go. Because both of us had grown up during the same years in the Waldo area in Kansas City, there was always an abundance of topics for us to amuse ourselves with. Old memories shared between friends. We are all blessed with a few special people in our lives and Dr. Cohen was one of those people for me. Rest in peace, my friend, and know that you made a real difference in the lives of those you came in contact with on this earth.

Brenda D. Jones, LPN

Brenda Jones - August 13, 2016 at 02:51 AM



“ Brenda Jones lit a candle in memory of MARVIN C. COHEN MD



Brenda Jones - August 13, 2016 at 02:31 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear of Dr. Cohen's passing. It was truly an honor to work with him for so many years as well as be a patient every now and again. He was a truly special man and a gifted surgeon.

Deona Sherrill - August 13, 2016 at 01:52 AM



“ Patti Rinker lit a candle in memory of MARVIN C. COHEN MD



Patti Rinker - August 12, 2016 at 10:56 PM



“ I worked in surgery with Dr Cohen for 18 years. Almost everything I knew about general surgery, I learned from him. In all that time, I never once saw him lose his cool. He loved to teach and interact with people, staff and patients alike. Almost daily, Dr Cohen would get behind in his clinic or while rounding because he would never cut anyone short, he would talk with them as long as they wanted. He was the most gentle spirit of anyone I have ever met in my entire life. And our corner of the world will never be quite as bright now that he is gone.

Patti Rinker - August 12, 2016 at 11:07 PM



“ Dr.Cohen will be missed by all his co-workers at Cass Regional, he was very dear to us all. My mother was one of his many patients, and she also will be sad to hear of her own personal hero's passing. My sincere condolences go to his family. May God keep you during this tough time of sorrow. Pamela Lukenbill



“ I was fortunate to have been his colleague. An extraordinarily intelligent, thoughtful, and compassionate physician. A joy to consult with, and an educator who embraced knowledge. I was better for having known him.

Robert F Thompson MD - August 12, 2016 at 10:29 PM



“ Marvin was a wonderful guy and was always so nice and considerate of everyone. He and Denise invited several of us Nurses to go to Longview Lake to go boating with them. We had the best time. Marvin and Denise also would invite the St. Joseph crowd that worked with Denise out to their home. They were such wonderful hosts. And most of all, Marvin was such a kind Doctor, and truly cared about his patients. He will be missed.

Dottie Purcell

Dottie Purcell - August 12, 2016 at 09:58 PM



“ I am so sad to hear of Dr. Cohen's passing, he was such a great person, knowledgeable & compassionate physician. I had the privilege of working with him for a short time. Prayers for your family

Susan Ferguson

Susan Ferguson - August 12, 2016 at 09:55 PM



“ Marvin was an awesome & cherished member of the Cass Regional Medical Center "Family"... He exemplified our values & our mission... caring for the person in each patient... He will always be a legacy & a part of our Cass Regional Medical Center "work family"... I am proud to have known him as a "family member"... & a patient... Cass Regional Medical Center is a better place because of you!!!!...

John K Hoffman - August 12, 2016 at 09:34 PM



“ I would cover as a receptionist in Dr. Cohen's office when needed. Such a compassionate man. His patients loved him just as the medical staff that worked with him. My mom developed breast cancer in 2002 and Dr. Cohen took care of her. She was very satisfied with the care that she received. Dr. Cohen, you will be sadly missed. My thoughts and prayers for Denise and the family.

Christy Henderson

Christy Henderson - August 12, 2016 at 09:27 PM



“ I think of Dr. Cohen often. He loved hearing stories of my growing up as a Veterinarian's daughter. He marveled at the crazy things that happened to us as we worked cattle on horseback. He always told me he didn't know how I survived such adventures! One time we were talking about skinning squirrels. He asked Dr. Aaron if he could believe that I knew how to skin a squirrel. Aaron said he believed it!! Dr. Cohen said he thought I was "a Barbie doll type"!!! Cracked us up. He was also an excellent surgeon to work with. Always a gentleman to his patients as well as the nurses. I think of him often with such endearment. What a wonderful man, surgeon, human being. The void he has left behind in this world is only surpassed by his fulfillment of the next world. Dr. Cohen, you will be missed but not forgotten.
Brenda Noland RN, BSN

Brenda Noland - August 12, 2016 at 08:58 PM



“ I worked with Dr Cohen for 15 years. He never raised his voice and never became cross with me no matter how many times I called him about a patient. He was a brilliant physician who genuinely cared about his patients and coworkers. He will be greatly missed.

Wauthena Neely - August 12, 2016 at 08:46 PM



“ I came to Cass radiology department from St Luke's in 2001. Dr Cohen and I could talk to each other eye to eye so I always got a kick out of him pulling into the parking lot in his big old caddy. He was a small man with the largest integrity I have ever seen. You could be 30 steps behind him and he would wait to hold the door for you. Please and thank you were his mantra. I always told him that " his mama raised him right". He was the finest surgeon and one of the most decent humans in healthcare. It was an honor to have known him.
Martha York RT(R)(M)(QM) (CT)

Martha York - August 12, 2016 at 08:32 PM



“ Denise. I'm so sorry to hear about Marvin but I am confident he is in a better place. Please know that you are in my prayers as you deal with this. I really liked Marvin and was proud to work with him at St. Joseph.



“ Dear Denise,
We are so saddened by the news. It certainly was a privilege to have shared special times with both of you. You were truly his angel. May your memories bring you strength.
Our love,
Linda and Les

Linda Cohn - August 12, 2016 at 04:03 PM



“ Les, thank you for your comments that Ian shared at the services today. They were very touching. Thank you for taking the time to share those stories.

Denise Ashby-Cohen - August 14, 2016 at 10:23 PM



“ Dear Denise,
I was so very sorry to hear about Marvin's passing. As his slightly younger cousin, I recall his kindness, caring nature, and the sparkle that always seemed to shine through his eyes from deep within his soul. Each member of my immediate family loved and respected him. May his memory be a blessing.

Sheila Stolov

Sheila Stolov - August 15, 2016 at 11:29 PM