



Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha

January 4, 1976 - September 10, 2023

Matthew P. Latacha was born January 4, 1976, in Evanston, Illinois to parents Stan and Diann Latacha. He spent his early childhood in Chicago where his sister, Kathryn, was also born. When he was 12, he moved to Boston, MA, and then relocated to Omaha during his freshman year of high school.

Matthew graduated from Millard North High School in 1994 as an outstanding student and member of the football team.

Matthew attended Washington University in St. Louis where he received a bachelor's degree in biology. After college, he attended the University of Nebraska Medical Center, receiving a prestigious Regents Scholarship for being one of the top 6 students in his class. He completed medical school in 2002 and matched at Barnes-Jewish Hospital/ Washington University in St. Louis for residency in Internal Medicine. Following residency, he completed two fellowships – one in general cardiology and the other in clinical cardiac electrophysiology, both at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Even before he completed his medical training, others recognized his talent, and he was recruited by Heart Consultants in Omaha, NE. Since 2009, he was a member of the Methodist Health System treating complex disorders of the cardiac conduction system. He was a gifted and compassionate cardiologist who was beloved by his patients and respected by his colleagues.

Matthew met his wife, Kim, during high school, although they did not date at that time. They reconnected at UNMC and were married in 2001. Together they have three beautiful children, Abby, Madelyn, and Nathan. Matthew was

a devoted father and an exceptional chef. He cooked for his family daily and went to great lengths to purchase environmentally conscious and ethically sourced ingredients. He was an avid reader of non-fiction and was fascinated with military history. Two of his favorite past times were visiting the SAC Museum and attending the air show. Matthew loved all animals, but especially reptiles. Several snakes, lizards, chameleons and bearded dragons have thrived under his care.

Matthew was passionate about health and fitness. Physical activity was an important part of his life and he either attended Crossfit class, ran, or biked daily. As a cardiologist, he felt it was important not just to recommend a healthy lifestyle to his patients, but to model it as well. When not treating patients, cooking, or working out, Matthew could be found in the basement practicing on his Les Paul guitar, drinking a beautiful Napa Cabernet, listening to classic rock, driving his Tesla, or talking about great coffee. He knew so much about so many different things.

He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, colleagues, and the entire Omaha community.

Matthew is preceded in death by his grandparents William & Faye Wetzel and Bernice Latacha, Uncle Duran Wetzel and father-in-law Robert Eastep. He is survived by his loving wife Kim, children Abigail, Madelyn & Nathan, parents Stan & Diann Latacha, sister Kathryn Latacha (James Dalluge) mother-in-law Elaine Eastep, sister-in-law Kris Hansen (Rick), brother-in-law Joe Eastep (Lindsey) and numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, Sept. 16 at 10:30 AM, with visitation Friday evening 5-8PM, both at Bethany Lutheran Church in Elkhorn.

Memorials may be made to the family for the establishment of a memorial fund in his name.

Cemetery Details

Voss Mohr Cemetery

13801 Harrison Street
Omaha, NE 68138

Tribute Wall



CB

“ *Our heart aches for you, Kim, and for your children. We had so many great memories and connections from UNMC and then Barnes. Matthew had such a great presence. Chad and Carrie Byrd*

Carrie Venable Byrd - September 17, 2023 at 09:26 PM



“ *To Kim, Abby, Madelyn, and Nathan - We are so very sorry for the sudden loss of your wonderful husband and father. There are no words to convey the heartbreak we feel for you. May your many happy memories with him bring some peace during the difficult times.*

- Kyle and Vanessa Dreessen

Vanessa Dreessen - September 16, 2023 at 08:04 AM

MP

“ Dr . Latacha was to perform an ablation on my heart. I woke up after what I thought was my surgery and Dr. Latacha was there to tell me that my septum in my heart was too thick and he could not go through it without a more difficult surgery without discussing that surgery with my wife and I first.



I appreciated the way he treated me and my wife.

I never did continue with that more difficult surgery because he suggested that as long as my A-fib as controlled through medication and I was vigilant with my checking my INR, I could live a long life without the surgery.

He will be missed and I'm sorry that he will not be available for future patients.

He was kind and very thorough explaining things to patients.

Please pass on my sympathy to the family.

Michael Parker

Michael Parker - September 16, 2023 at 01:42 AM

FS

Dr. Latacha found that I was in afib after I returned from a trip to Germany and was able to get my heart back in sync allowing me to function properly. About a year later, he installed the Watchman implant and made it possible for me to get off blood thinners. I always looked forward to my appointments with him and will miss seeing his smiling face and his caring good natured personality. My thoughts and prayers to his family, friends and other patients 🙏

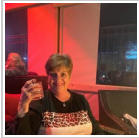
Frank Safranek - September 16, 2023 at 10:57 AM

SB

“ Sincerely, Cheryl Bialas purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha.



Sincerely, Cheryl Bialas - September 15, 2023 at 07:51 PM



“ We were so saddened to hear about Dr Latacha. What a great Man and Amazing Cardiologist he was ❤️ He did a procedure on my husband and my husband says he saved my life. He said I am So Thankful for him. I worked with him for many years myself and what a great person he was. Our condolences go out to his wife and family. He will be So missed ❤️ RIP Doctor

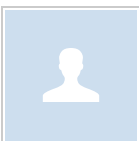
Betty Davis - September 15, 2023 at 07:27 PM



“ Betty Davis lit a candle in memory of Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha



Betty Davis - September 15, 2023 at 06:43 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha.



September 15, 2023 at 03:36 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha.



September 15, 2023 at 10:40 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha.



September 15, 2023 at 01:13 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha.

September 15, 2023 at 01:13 AM



“ To the Latacha family; My wife and I are so saddened to hear of the passing of Dr. Latacha. He performed several procedures on me and helped greatly improve my heart health. More importantly, he was a caring man who was a great listener and worked with me to make my life better. Our thoughts and prayers to your family.

Mark Miller

Mark Miller - September 14, 2023 at 07:53 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha.*



September 14, 2023 at 06:12 PM



“ *Druanne H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha.*

Druanne H. - September 14, 2023 at 04:04 PM



“ *Words cannot express our heartfelt sympathy to Kim and the Lataha family. Matthew was a teenage boy when we moved to Omaha as backyard neighbors. Our two sons were 3 & 5 at that time and adored Matthew who put up with them and his younger sister Kathryn became their dear friend. Matthew provided our sons their first fireworks display and enjoyed the impromptu jam sessions Matthew held in the Lataha garage. We have proudly watched Matthew become the dedicated husband, father, professional and leader, he will be greatly missed. Our prayers and thoughts go out to our former neighbors, Stan, Diann and Kathryn at this very difficult and sad time.*

Shawn & Laura Shaffer

Laura Shaffer - September 14, 2023 at 02:33 PM

RC

“ *Dr. Latacha's passing hit me hard because he was my husband's cardiologist, and my husband passed away on August 22. I had recently cancelled an appointment that my husband had had with Dr. Latacha for the first week in September. He provided excellent care to resolve heart issues that my husband had had for years. His family and colleagues have my deepest sympathy.*

Roberta Christensen

Roberta Christensen - September 14, 2023 at 02:21 PM

LS

“ *I just found out that Dr. Latacha had passed. He was my cardiologist and helped me so much. This news hit me really hard. However, I know that Christ has welcomed him into his beautiful kingdom. ~Lori Schenk*

Lori Schenk - September 14, 2023 at 10:31 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha.*

September 13, 2023 at 02:47 PM

TK

“ *Tracy K. purchased the Sentiments of Serenity S pray for the family of Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha.*



Tracy K. - September 13, 2023 at 12:08 PM

TK

“ Tracy K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha.

Tracy K. - September 13, 2023 at 12:08 PM

CR

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I can never thank him enough for saving my husband's life. He was a great man and an amazing cardiologist. We were very blessed to have known him. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.
Don Palijo & family

Cris - September 13, 2023 at 11:39 AM

BL

“ 🙏 To the family of Doctor Latacha I'm so sorry to hear of his passing, I wish I could thank him for being my doctor a friend and for fixing my heart to work like it was meant to! Rest In Peace Doctor. 🙏
Sincerely Bill Linstrom.



Bill Linstrom - September 13, 2023 at 10:54 AM



“ Rose Garden Heart was purchased for the family of Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha.



September 13, 2023 at 09:37 AM

BP

“ Kim and family, We are sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers are with you.

Bob and Jsne Patterson - September 12, 2023 at 10:53 PM

LM

“ Love, Dan, Nancy, Zoe, & Zachary Martin purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha.



Love, Dan, Nancy, Zoe, & Zachary Martin - September 12, 2023 at 05:36 PM

LM

“ Love, Dan, Nancy, Zoe, & Zachary Martin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Matthew Philip Latacha.

Love, Dan, Nancy, Zoe, & Zachary Martin - September 12, 2023 at 05:36 PM