



Christopher Leon Kopecky, M.D.

September 22, 1945 - January 22, 2026

Christopher Leon Kopecky, MD, passed away after a long and fruitful life on January 22, 2026.

He was born on September 22, 1945, in San Antonio, Texas, to parents Leon Charles Kopecky, MD, and Ina Moodie Calhoun Kopecky, MD.

After growing up in San Antonio, Chris attended the University of Texas at Austin. After graduation, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Medical Service Corps and trained at Fort Sam Houston. He served as a platoon leader and company commander in the historic Third Armored Division in Germany. He was later deployed to Vietnam, where he was the adjutant for the Third Field Hospital in Saigon. There he was promoted to captain and was awarded the Bronze Star. He immensely enjoyed the opportunity to serve his country.

Upon returning to civilian life, Chris attended business school at Texas Christian University, but he ultimately chose to follow his family tradition of practicing medicine. His grandfather and father were lifelong doctors, and his mother was one of the first women to graduate from the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston.

Chris received his MD from the University of Texas in San Antonio and

completed his residency in internal medicine at the University of Washington in Seattle. He returned to San Antonio for a fellowship in cardiology, after which he went into practice with his father. He continued to practice cardiology until his retirement in 2023.

Chris was an exceptionally devoted healer and friend to countless patients in Texas and around the country. He considered every patient a friend in need, and he was unfailingly and enormously generous with his time and resources. He made himself available day and night to serve others.

Chris was an avid outdoorsman who loved to cultivate an ever-changing menagerie of exotic animals on his farm and ranch properties. He also cherished the friendships and camaraderie of the many organizations with which he was affiliated, including the Texas Cavaliers, the Order of the Alamo, the German Club, The Argyle, and the San Antonio Country Club, among others. He was famous across San Antonio for both his wit and his sartorial flair – heaven just got a little more colorful.

Chris was preceded in death by his sisters Kathleen Kopecky Henri of Houston and Judith Kopecky Haight of New Orleans. He is survived by his loving wife, Lisa Chamness Kopecky; his children, Caroline Finkelstein (Jeremy Finkelstein, MD) of Houston, Chase Kopecky (Tiffany Thompson) of Los Angeles, and CeCe Thompson (Will Thompson) of San Antonio; his grandchildren, Alex Finkelstein, Max Finkelstein, Clara Pryor Thompson, and Grace Thompson; his brother, Stephen Kopecky, MD (Linda Kopecky); his in-laws, Bill Henri, Ronald Chamness (Maria Chamness), and Holly Chamness; and his nieces and nephews, Michael Henri, Alex Henri, MD, Elizabeth Henri Atton, Emily Kopecky Miller, Katy Kopecky, MD, Ben Kopecky, MD, Lucia Chamness, and Mateo Chamness.

The family would like to thank his compassionate caregivers: Dr. Pedro

Calzada, Dr. Jerome Hahn, Imelda Galvan, Aldo Galvan, Gustavo Diaz, Marek Sieczynski, Jessica Robles, Page Ortiz, Marcia Fields, and Mary Kay Tennett.

Chris will be deeply missed and remembered by all who knew him.

Servings as Honorary Pallbearers are Ronald Chamness; Wayne Christiansen; Jeremy Finkelstein, M.D.; Alex Henri, M.D.; Bill Henri; Steve Honigbloom; Stephen Kopecky, M.D.; John Lupe; Bobby Nail; Leo Quintinilla; John T. Steen Jr. ; Edward G. Steves; Sam Bell Steves II; Sam Bell Steves III; Whitley Strieber; Will Thompson; Robert Dixon Tips; Paul Tripplehorn; and Ted Weiss.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

<https://www.mdanderson.org/donors-volunteers/donate/honor-loved-ones.html>

Cemetery Details

Mission Burial Park North at Dominion

20900 IH-10 W.
San Antonio, TX 78257

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN **29**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Christ Episcopal Church
510 Belknap
San Antonio, TX 78212

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Chris may you be with the Almighty God and my sweet Edwin Kubema*

Margaret Kubena - March 24 at 06:11 PM



“ *There will never be another man like Chris Kopecky. He treated many members of my family, seeing my husband through 3 perilous cardiac events. Chris saw me through the death of my eldest child, with love strength and compassion few people have. Chris was not only our physician, but a dear friend. If I can live with even a measure of the grace, love and humanity as Chris, I will live a successful life.*

*With love and prayers;
Margaret Jones Hagelman*

Margaret Jones Hagelman - February 01 at 01:22 PM



“ *Dr. Kopecky cared for me, my wife, and many in my family before me. Always with compassion, careful attention to detail, and a friendly smile. Dr. Kopecky had a knack for making you feel like an old friend. I've never had a doctor like him, and I sincerely doubt I will again. Our deepest condolences to his family.*

Joe Rubio III - January 26 at 09:36 PM

PZ

“ My husband and I addressed him as Chris, probably because his father was “Dr. Kopecky” to us. Chris was the most generous doctor either of us ever experienced with his time and his ability to put us at ease and give us good sound advice we could understand and follow. My husband had many complications with Young Onset Parkinson’s Disease along with Lewy Body Dementia. Chris treated him like a close friend as he administered to him and we felt comfort as we departed. He will be sorely missed from this world of ours. Rest in peace, Chris, and thank you to his family for sharing him with us, his grateful patients.

Patricia Zweig-Franson - January 26 at 09:21 PM

LP

“ My husband and I were patients of Dr. Kopecky. When we met him for the first time, we both knew that we had not just found a new doctor, but a friend. He was available to us day & night, and weekends.

The real test of time came when we were stranded with Covid in Grand Cayman. I had just learned that my son had passed in Texas and I could not leave Grand Cayman without a negative Covid test. Dr. Kopecky did not hesitate. He immediately got on the phone with a pharmacy there and prescribed the necessary medication to get me well, so I could fly home. He wasn’t just a great physician, but a humanitarian as well.

His passing is so sad. The world has lost a truly compassionate soul.

Our condolences to his family, his wife, Lisa, and pray for comfort during this sad time. Dr. Kopecky- may you rest in peace and no doubt know that we will miss you and your caring heart!

Libby and Frank Pender

Libby Edwards Pender - January 26 at 09:20 PM



*I was a patient of Dr. Kopecky for many years. He was the best doctor i have ever had. He was always available to me no matter what time it was. So caring and so genuine. He made you feel you were important to him. I really loved him and I appreciated his big heart. I will truly miss him. What a wonderful human being. May you rest in peace Dr. Kopecky! You are very loved.
Yvonne Vives-Atsara Varney*

Yvonne Vives-Atsara Varney - January 29 at 09:53 AM

EL

“ I am reading and my heart is hurting. I wasn't a patient but I worked for Dr Kopecky, I saw how much he loved his patients and how much he cared for them. He was available to them at all times. During COVID when patients bringing their loved ones with no insurance and no money to take them somewhere else, Dr Kopecky was there. He saw them with no charge, he treated them with no charge, he cared for them with no charge.

When I got severely ill during COVID he drove all the way to my house and got me medications that he was prescribing them to his patients.

I remember me an him working hard on getting our patients scheduled to have immunotherapy infusion done even after shift ends and on weekends.

He is the reason why I loved cardiology and why I pursued it. Every time that I was curious about something we saw or heard about our patients he will find time to explain it to me when I ask.

He was so smart, knowledgeable, and passionate. He worked weekdays and weekends to be available to all his patients.

He was so easy going and so friendly yet very serious about his job that some people found that intimidating. But who truly knew Dr Kopecky, would say that he had a heart of gold. 🧡

Wish I saw you one last time doc.

I loved this picture of him in his office. I remember telling him he is the only one having a great time smiling with his teeth.



Elaf - January 25 at 11:10 AM

LP

My husband and I were patients of Dr. Kopecky. When we met him for the first time, we both knew that we had not just found a new doctor, but a friend. He was available to us day & night, and weekends. The real test of time came when we were stranded with Covid in Grand Cayman. I had just learned that my son had passed in Texas and I could not leave Grand Cayman without a negative Covid test. Dr. Kopecky did not hesitate. He immediately got on the phone with a pharmacy there and prescribed the necessary medication to get me well, so I could fly home. He wasn't just a great physician, but a humanitarian as well.

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Libby and Frank Pender

Libby Edwards Pender - January 26 at 09:10 PM

RE

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Robin Eccles - January 24 at 06:12 PM

RE

Th entire Eccles Family loved Chris dearly. His incredible spirit will live in our hearts forever!

Robin Eccles - January 24 at 06:11 PM

TE

Chris was like a brother to me. He was funny, compassionate and full of life. I will miss hime dearly!

Our deepest condolences go out to his entire family. Much love- Ted

Ted Eccles - January 24 at 06:15 PM

BJ

Dr. Chris was a blessing to me and the many patients we cared for mutually. My condolences to his family and friends as he will be tremendously missed! With love, Brenda

Brenda Jaye - January 25 at 02:34 PM

ED

“*Chris had a heart of gold. He had more compassion, love, devotion to his patients than anyone I know. Our families go back three generations. He loved life, his precious Lisa, his family and friends and was a true healer. I will miss his smile, his humor, quick wit and his brilliant mind 🙏🙏❤️❤️ Eliza Duncan*

Eliza Duncan - January 24 at 03:36 PM

DC

My heart goes out to Lisa and all of the family! Chris took care of three generations of my family, never failing to show his compassion and kindness! ONE OF A KIND! I will miss his presence at social gatherings,,, always had a brilliant “set of threads” as we old hippies referred his GATSBY ATTIRE! What a super Friend! Jo Ann Coates

Dr Jo Ann Coates - January 30 at 08:32 PM

FA

“*I have never known a doctor who made himself more available to his patients. He always answered every call. And yes indeed he loved to dress colorfully.
With great fondness Alice and Eric FOULTZ*

Foultz Alice - January 24 at 11:08 AM

TH

“ Tom sachs and sarah hoover purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Christopher Leon Kopecky, M.D..



Tom sachs and sarah hoover - January 24 at 04:05 AM

BS

“ Beth Staples purchased the Simply Elegant Spatiphyllum for the family of Christopher Leon Kopecky, M.D..



Beth Staples - January 24 at 12:10 AM



“ Divine Light was purchased for the family of Christopher Leon Kopecky, M.D..



January 23 at 10:02 PM

GF

“ Gene & Jerry Jones Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Leon Kopecky, M.D..

Gene & Jerry Jones Family - January 23 at 10:02 PM