



## Phillip L. Dalton

August 20, 1969 - April 22, 2025

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Phillip Lynn Dalton, DVM, age 55, who passed away on the evening of April 22nd at UVA Medical Center. Phillip was born on August 20, 1969. He was preceded in death by his parents, Chesley Howell Dalton Jr. and Virginia Bullington Dalton and was the husband of Tamara Saunders Dalton for twenty-seven years. He is survived by his wife, Tamara; one sister, Teresa Ford (Rick); one brother, Gary Dalton (Jennie); nephew, Christopher Ford (Lisa); niece, Cameron Crumpler (Philip); four great nephews, Grayson Ford, Christian Ford, Lucas Crumpler, and Logan Crumpler.

Phillip attended high school at Walter Hines Page High School in Greensboro, North Carolina. After high school, he attended VMI and later joined the United States Marines. Phillip lived a life marked by courage, dedication, love, and service. A proud veteran of the United States Marine Corps, he served his country with distinction for ten years of active duty. Serving in Desert Storm and Desert Shield, he participated in seventy-five parachute jumps and many experiences that shaped his worldview and instilled in him a deep sense of patriotism.

After the Marines, Phillip returned to Pittsylvania County where he pursued his education with the same commitment as his military career. He graduated from Averett University with honors. His love of animals led him to follow his

dream of becoming a veterinarian. He accomplished that goal when he graduated from Ross University, completed his internship at Oklahoma State University, passed his state boards and became a trusted and respected veterinarian in the area. In addition to his study and professional accomplishments, he was also a master wood carver.

According to his wishes, there will be a private memorial service. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in his memory to the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, 909 N. Washington Street, Suite 400, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; Pittsylvania County Pet Center, 11880 US Highway 29, Chatham, Virginia 24531, or Ducks Unlimited, Inc., One Waterfowl Way, Memphis, Tennessee 38120.

The family wishes to express their gratitude to everyone who reached out with messages, cards, and calls of support and love during this difficult time. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

A special "Thank You" to the people at UVA Medical Center Transplant and ICU areas, who spent countless hours helping him through his days.

Finch & Finch Funeral and Cremation Service, Altavista is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## **Altavista Memorial Park**

642 Wards Road  
Altavista, VA 24517

# Tribute Wall



“ *Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service created a Tribute Video in memory of Phillip L. Dalton*



Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service - April 28, 2025 at 10:46 AM

LH

*Phillip was one in a million; he was first a very nice person; second he was a great lover of all things and third, he loved his work. The first time I met him I thought he couldn't be the vet he is too young/ but no he is smart as a whip!!! We grew to really liking him and so did our Lady. It may sound strange but she never lived to go to a new vet. we were taking her to the vet and she passed away on the way there. Phillip will be missed by all that knew him. We are sorry for your lost also Tamara. The Hackworth family!*

Lonnie and Brenda Hackworth - April 30, 2025 at 03:08 PM

JR

*Beautiful Memory of of a wonderful person, Dr. Phillip L. Dalton.*

Juanita Reynolds - April 30, 2025 at 10:22 PM

PD

“ *Phillip was a great blessing to myself and my late husband. Our two huskies and then our three Golden Retrievers all were lucky enough to have been cared for by Phillip. He had a caring attitude and we all benefited from it. God bless and console his wife and family. Patricia and the late Floyd Davis*

Patricia Davis - May 04, 2025 at 02:02 AM

AG

“ *Angela Gledhill lit a candle in memory of Phillip Dalton*



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**Angela Gledhill** - May 02, 2025 at 10:05 AM

WS

“ *I didn't have the honor of knowing Phil as a vet, but I did have the privilege of being his cousin. Phil was one of the kindest people you'd ever have the pleasure to know. The world was a better place with Phil in it. One of my fondest memories was a combined family trip across the US and back across Canada -- 4 adults and 6 kids crammed in 1 Winnebago for a couple of weeks. Phil and the rest of us rode bikes and played in some of the most gorgeous places in North America. Tamara, I'm very sorry for your loss (our loss). Rest in peace, Phil. I love you.*

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**Wes Stone** - May 01, 2025 at 10:29 AM

MA

“ *There are some people who make the world a better place simply by being in it. Phillip was one of those people. He treated the animals he cared for and the families who loved them with kindness, compassion and respect. He will be greatly missed by all those who knew him and the community he so faithfully served. Our thoughts and prayers are with Tamara, the family, and the Gretna Animal Clinic family in their grief.*

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**Martha and Jeff Abbott** - April 28, 2025 at 08:14 PM

CH

“ *Semper Fi Marine*

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**CHRIS HINES** - April 28, 2025 at 11:04 AM

CI

“ *Lifting up prayers of peace and comfort for Tamara and Phillip’s entire family.*

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**Cynthia and Scott Ingram** - April 27, 2025 at 05:19 PM

MP

“ *One of the most genuine human beings I've ever met.  
He was smart, kind and compassionate.  
He seemed to always be smiling and was always happy to speak with you.*

*He once told my wife and I that after the marines he chose to save lives vs. taking them.*

*Such a kind soul who was there for us when we lost our dear pet of almost 12 years.*

*I pray you are at peace now with God. I also pray that your family will have the peace of Christ during this difficult time.*

*Prayers for you all.*

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**Mike Patterson** - April 26, 2025 at 09:41 PM

LR

“ *Tamara and family, I am saddened by Phillip’s passing. He was a veterinarian, showing such love and compassion to his patients. Phillip had a kind and gentle spirit and was a dear friend. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*



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**Lisa Reid** - April 26, 2025 at 06:45 PM

AH

“ Im so sad to hear that Phillip passed. Tamera , you and Phillip have been friends forever. I am forever grateful for the profound love that Phillip showed to my dogs. His kind touch and caring words at times of loss and heartache with my furbabies will forever be in my heart. Phillip was a great man, friend and vet. Rest in Peace.

Angela Hutcherson - April 26, 2025 at 05:41 PM

DM

“ Tami, our thoughts are with you during this most difficult time and we are praying for comfort and peace that only God can give. Don and Patti

Don and Patti Morton - April 26, 2025 at 11:11 AM

LR

“ Phillip was always so good with the animals and cared so much about them.I brought my on animals to him and all the foster kittens and puppies that needed Vet care.He will be greatly missed.Prayers for all his family and friends

Laura Rowland - April 26, 2025 at 09:56 AM

SF

“ So sorry for your loss. Prayers



Shirley Forloines - April 26, 2025 at 09:37 AM

WC

“ Wanda Crider lit a candle in memory of Phillip Dalton



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**Wanda Crider** - April 26, 2025 at 08:50 AM

PM

“ Prayers for the Dalton family. Dr. Dalton was a wonderful vet to my fur babies over the years & I was so saddened when GAC closed. I always would tell him I wish he could be my doctor as I trusted him more than the physicians for humans. I'm so heartbroken for his passing & he was truly a wonderful & compassionate man.



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**Pam Mattox** - April 26, 2025 at 08:48 AM

RP

“ Phillip was a loving, caring young man. He truly loved animals and was my go to veterinarian. He helped me as well as my pets through some tough times. He will be missed.

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**Ronnie Pickral** - April 26, 2025 at 06:26 AM

EC

“ I am so sad to hear of Dr. Dalton's passing. He was the most kind and compassionate veterinarian to my fur babies. I missed him so much when he retired. Prayers for the family.

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**Ellen Creasy** - April 25, 2025 at 09:11 PM

SO

“ So sad to hear this. He was a compassionate vet and very nice man. Condolences to the family.

Shirley Orrell - April 25, 2025 at 09:00 PM

DR

“ Dennis Robertson lit a candle in memory of Phillip Dalton



Dennis Robertson - April 25, 2025 at 08:25 PM

MM

“ Phillip was my vet for all of my furbabies. He was so compassionate with the pets and their owners. He is and will be missed. He was a friend and co-worker. Praying for his friends and family especially his wife Tammy. R.i.P. Phillip.



Mary Moses-Hicks - April 25, 2025 at 06:33 PM

SP

“ A wonderful man and the best friend a fur baby could have.He will be so missed.praying for his family



Susan Phillips - April 25, 2025 at 06:18 PM

MR

“ I cannot express how this saddens my family. Dr Dalton was sincere in how he took care of my my little fur baby Chance. His treatment gave us several more years with him. Dr Dalton truly cared about his patients. May God bless and watch over him and his family

Michael Reynolds - April 25, 2025 at 06:11 PM

BG

A very good kind hearted man who always had his animals first when ever we went for our check ups. You will be missed God Bless ..

Bill Gavin - April 25, 2025 at 08:24 PM

DA

“ He was such a sweet and caring person and a wonderful vet to my animals over the years. I didn't realize we were cousins until he started working at the Gretna Animal Clinic, so he always called me cuz every time I saw him from then on. I'm so sorry for your loss. He's going to be missed by many people and animals too. I'm sure my Molly, Jenny and Abby came running to meet him when he entered heaven's gates. They loved Phillip!

Darlene - April 25, 2025 at 05:35 PM

DF

“ Dianne Fifer lit a candle in memory of Phillip Dalton



Dianne Fifer - April 25, 2025 at 05:13 PM

LR

“ Phillip was Great Guy working at Gretna Vet always super nice  
PRAYERS For Family.

Larry and Nadine Roach - April 25, 2025 at 04:56 PM

CA

“ He was the best! He took care of several of our pets for their entire  
lives while he was a tech at Gretna Animal Clinic and then a vet  
there. So sorry to hear about his passing.

Carolyn Allen - April 25, 2025 at 04:52 PM

VC

“ I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Dr.  
Dalton. He was a wonderful vet to both of my  
dogs Harley and Milo. Thoughts and prayers  
to the family.



Vicky Creasy - April 25, 2025 at 04:49 PM