



## Dr. Shearwood J. McClelland

August 13, 2023

Shearwood J. McClelland, MD, MPH, FACS, FAAOS

Dr. Shearwood J. McClelland was born in Gary, Indiana when it was a booming Midwest steel mill town. His father worked in the coke plants of the steel mills in Gary and his mother was a school crossing guard. Dr. McClelland was the valedictorian of his public high school (Tolleston) and went on to attend Princeton University. He, too, went back to Gary Indiana and worked in the steel mills during his summers at college in order to earn money towards his tuition. In 1969, Dr. McClelland graduated with Sigma Xi honors from Princeton University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology. He received his Doctor of Medicine degree from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and completed an orthopædic residency at the New York Orthopædic Hospital of Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center.

Without any military obligation, Dr. McClelland and his wife volunteered for active duty in the U. S. Navy and were commissioned as Lieutenant Commanders, stationed at The National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland where he served as Chief of Total Joint Surgery.

Dr. McClelland was Board-certified in Orthopædic Surgery and for 25 years was the Director of the Department of Orthopædic Surgery at the Harlem Hospital Center and Associate Professor of Clinical Orthopædic Surgery at

Columbia University. In 1996, he and his wife earned an Executive Master of Public Health degree in Health Policy and Management from the Mailman School of Public Health of Columbia University. In addition to being a skilled surgeon in musculoskeletal trauma, Dr. McClelland completed a Fellowship in Joint Implant Surgery at The Ohio State University.

During his tenure at Harlem Hospital, Dr. McClelland was an active participant in numerous professional activities both within and outside the confines of Harlem Hospital. Within the hospital, he previously served as Chairman of the Case Management Committee as well as a prior Secretary and Vice-President of the Medical Board; and he served on the Board Of Directors of The Friends Of Harlem Hospital, Inc. Consultative positions outside the hospital include nine years of service (1989-1998) as a member of the New York State Board of Professional Medical Conduct, and for 25 years, he served as a Senior Oral Examiner for the American Board of Orthopædic Surgery. Other extramural profession-related activities include being a past President of the Alumni Association of Columbia University's College of Physicians & Surgeons; and he continued to serve as member of the medical school Admissions Committee of Columbia University. In addition, he was selected to be a Health Policy Fellow of the National Association of Public Hospitals in 2005.

Since 1983, Dr. McClelland has served the underserved who seek medical care at Harlem Hospital. Many physicians want to make a lot of money, make connections, or make a name for themselves. Dr. Shearwood J. McClelland just wanted to make a difference. Throughout his career, he was a foot soldier for the poor and disenfranchised. It takes a special breed of man to have the understanding, compassion and dedication, combined with consummate surgical skills, to practice at an inner-city hospital, which is often shunned by many upwardly mobile practitioners. Unsolicited and without hesitation, Dr. Answorth Allen has remarked that, "Shearwood McClelland is one of the greatest arthroplastic surgeons of his time."

A Life Member of Mensa, Dr. McClelland was also a member of the American Medical Association and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, the American Academy of Orthopædic Surgeons, and a Life Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine. Other honors include perennial inclusion in the Castle & Connolly “Best Doctors in New York” guide, selection by Black Enterprise Magazine as one of America’s Leading Black Doctors, and the inclusion of his biography in *Who’s Who In Medicine & Healthcare*, *Who’s Who In America*, and *Who’s Who In The World*. In 2011, Dr. McClelland was named by U.S. News & World Report to its “Top Ten Percent” list of Orthopædic Surgeons in the United States.

He is predeceased by his parents, Shearwood McClelland and Zenobia Pruitt McClelland, and a brother, Richard. Dr. McClelland is survived by his wife, Dr. Yvonne Thornton (McClelland), his two children, Dr. Shearwood McClelland, III, MD and Dr. Kimberly I. McClelland, MD and granddaughter, Ola.

# Cemetery Details

## Princeton Memorial Park

403 Gordon Road  
Robbinsonville, NJ 08691

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

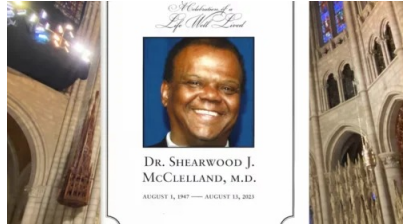
AUG 26. 11:30 AM (ET)

The Riverside Church  
490 Riverside Drive  
New York, NJ 10027  
<https://www.trcnyc.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ Legacy Celebrated created a Webcast in memory of Dr. Shearwood J. McClelland



Volk Leber Funeral Home - October 03, 2023 at 01:06 PM



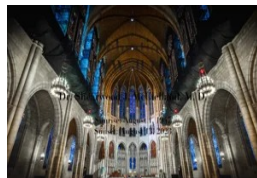
“ A Tribute video by Legacy Celebrated has been created for the family in memory of Dr. Shearwood J. McClelland



Volk Leber Funeral Home - September 25, 2023 at 08:05 AM



“ Service Highlights provided by Legacy Celebrated for the family in memory of Dr. Shearwood J. McClelland



Volk Leber Funeral Home - October 03, 2023 at 01:14 PM

AJ

“ I've just learned about Dr. McClelland's death. It saddens me to not have paid my respects to the family. He was an amazing person who helped without asking, his heart was immense, his smile contagious. I still have his daughter's musical CD given to me one Christmas day, he was very proud of his family. I learned so much from him, and when my father died, he told me i had gained a new father. Love you forever Dr. teddy bear.

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**ana jacob** - January 03, 2024 at 03:32 PM



“ *Dr. Shearwood J. McClelland*

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October 08, 2023 at 09:59 PM



“ *Dr. Shearwood J. McClelland*

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October 08, 2023 at 06:27 PM

DM

“ *As a representative for an International Orthopedic Co., for 30 years, I had the privilege to work with Dr. McClelland and am saddened to hear this news. My sincerest condolences to his family, that he often spoke about... Don Marx*

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**Don Marx** - September 04, 2023 at 02:49 PM

MW

“ To: Dr. Yvonne Thornton, Dr. Shearwood McClelland, and Dr. Kimberly McClelland

*We hold you in our hearts as you mourn the loss of beloved husband and father, Dr. Shearwood J. McClelland, truly a giant in the medical profession. What an amazing person and a tremendous loss. We pray that you will find strength in the years of precious memories. Both Kimberly and Woody were outstanding students in the choral music program at THS. May you all find comfort and peace in the lyrics of the Irish Blessing, one of our favorite pieces. “May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.”*

*Respectfully,  
Dr. Maredia D. L. Warren, Retired Faculty THS and Professor  
Emerita NJCU  
Charles Warren  
Former Students at Teaneck High School*

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**Maredia D. L. Warren** - August 25, 2023 at 03:13 PM

JM

“ To the family of the late Dr. Shearwood J. McClelland;  
I send to you all my deepest sympathy in the loss of this outstanding physician and orthopedic surgeon. It was my privilege to work with Dr. McClelland, but too briefly at the Harlem Hospital Center. I retired from there in 1987. I was profoundly moved as I read his beautifully written obituary in the Times. I send to you my condolences in your loss, but we all must find consolation in Dr. McClelland's remarkable and enduring legacy. Most sincerely,  
James E.C. Norris, M.D. Retired Plastic Surgeon, Former Director,  
Burn Unit HHC.

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**James E. C. Norris, M.D.** - August 23, 2023 at 08:01 PM

MM

“ 1 file added to the album *Dr. Shearwood J. McClelland, MD*



Mrs. Shearwood J. McClelland - August 21, 2023 at 10:07 AM

MM

“ 6 files added to the album *Dr. Shearwood J. McClelland, MD*



Mrs. Shearwood J. McClelland - August 21, 2023 at 09:58 AM

JE

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Dr. McClelland was a kind, intelligent, attentive man whom I met when I taught his son, Woody, and daughter, Kimberly, at TJMS. May his memory be a blessing for the family.*

*Jamie Elkin*

Jamie Elkin - August 20, 2023 at 09:07 AM