

IN MEMORIAM — DR COBUS BADENHORST

Dr Cobus Badenhorst passed away on 27 October 2025 after a short and traumatic illness. It happened too unexpectedly and too soon, leaving his family, friends, colleagues, and patients in deep shock and sorrow.

Born in 1954, Cobus matriculated in Lichtenburg. He went on to study medicine at the University of Pretoria, where he completed his Master of Medicine in Internal Medicine Cum Laude, before pursuing a career in cardiology. In 1989, Cobus entered private practice and became one of the first specialists at Netcare Unitas Hospital, where he built a career defined by excellence and tireless dedication. He chose a field that demands precision and lifelong learning – qualities he fully embodied.

I was privileged to be his partner for 35 years, and in all those years, there was never a single dispute or conflict. Cobus was the epitome of professionalism: a trusted colleague, a loyal friend, and a partner with whom I shared both hardship and immeasurable joy. A gifted cardiologist with exceptional knowledge and technical skill, Cobus was admired for his sound clinical judgment and advice. He was an esteemed member of the cardiology fraternity and served as Treasurer of the South African Heart Association, where his leadership, integrity, and wisdom were widely respected.

We will also remember him for his humility and unwavering commitment. He was a cardiologist whose work was more than a profession; it was a profound calling. Cobus, affectionately known as Dr Badie, was popular, friendly, and accommodating, and his zest for life was infectious. He was the heart and soul of our practice.

Above all, Cobus's greatest pride and joy was his family. His children, Jacques and Elyzka, both followed in his footsteps to become doctors, which brought him immense fulfilment. He embraced life wholeheartedly, was an avid golfer, a lover of the bushveld, an exceptional hunter, and a master storyteller whose company was treasured by all who knew him.

His passing has left an irreplaceable emptiness. Cobus was a remarkable human being who touched countless lives. The legacy of his life and his service will live on in everyone who had the privilege of knowing him.

Dr Jean Vorster

Cardiologist

MBChB (Pret), MMed (Int) (Pret), Cert Cardiology (SA), FESC

South African Society of Cardiovascular Intervention (SASCI) vice-president

Netcare Unitas Hospital

South Africa

