

## **Richard T. Eliason MD, String Bass**

Richard T. Eliason was born, raised and educated in Denver Colorado. He has played String Bass since age 12. He spent 5 years as a physician in the United States Navy serving in San Diego and the Philippines. He then went to Medical School and became a Urologist, after which he moved to St. Petersburg where he practiced for 30 years. He is currently retired, but still works at the St. Petersburg Free Clinic.

Since living in St. Pete he has played in a number of groups, including the Tampa Bay Symphony, the Pinellas Park Orchestra, the Congregational church orchestra, an 18 piece big band, and some smaller combos and trios. Dr. Eliason also plays flute in the Masonic Band. He started the flute around 1993 when he inherited 2 flutes from his uncle.

He became chairman of the Marley Music Society at the Museum of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg about 20 years ago. His job is to choose and present the music series for the Summer season programs, working through agents, personal choices, friends and other musicians, of which most are world class performers.

Although he is a widower for the past two years, he is to be remarried in July 2018 to a fellow flutist with the Masonic Band, Mardie Chapman.

He has a son, two granddaughters and a great grandson.