

R. Michael Buckley, PSOM and Pennsylvania Hospital

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DEATHS

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R. Michael Buckley

R. Michael Buckley, a physician and former executive director at Pennsylvania Hospital, a clinical professor in the Perelman School of Medicine's department of infectious diseases, and a former associate dean in PSOM, passed away from complications of cancer on April 9. He was 75.

Dr. Buckley was born in Tampa, FL. He earned a bachelor's degree in English from Yale University in 1968, and while there he was a member of Yale's All-American championship swimming team. In 1972, he earned an MD, also from Yale. He completed a medical residency in Chapel Hill, NC, and in 1975, he came to Penn as a postdoctoral trainee in infectious diseases in the department of medicine. He then proceeded to rise through the ranks in that department for the next several decades. In 1978, he became an assistant

clinical professor, and in 1992, he was promoted to full clinical professor. While a clinical professor and physician, Dr. Buckley led Pennsylvania Hospital's charge to address the AIDS epidemic, caring for thousands of patients with a unique compassion. Dr. Buckley eventually became division chief of infectious diseases and, in 1997, an associate dean of the School of Medicine.

At the hospital, Dr. Buckley continued to have an illustrious career. There, he became the chair of medicine, then the chief medical officer, and, from 2010 to 2014, executive director of Pennsylvania Hospital. In this role, he supervised care delivery to patients and spearheaded the financial interests of the hospital. In 2005, he won the Alfred Stengel Award Health System Champion Award from the School of Medicine. In 2014, he retired from Penn, and two years later, a portrait of Dr. Buckley was dedicated in the Zubrow Auditorium at Pennsylvania Hospital.

Outside of his professional responsibilities, Dr. Buckley served on several boards, including those of the Infectious Disease Society of America, Waverly Heights Senior Living, the Philadelphia Youth Sports Collaborative, and Kelly Greens of Fort Myers, FL.

He is survived by his wife, Sally; his children, Emily (Jonathan), Carrie (David), and Brian (Meghan); his brother, Tim (Fran); his sister, Ellen (David); and seven grandchildren. A funeral mass was held on April 19. Gifts in Dr. Buckley's honor can be made to Abramson Cancer Center (<https://giving.apps.upenn.edu/fund?program=MC&fund=600499>), the Pennsylvania Hospital Friends Fund (<https://giving.apps.upenn.edu/fund?program=MC&fund=602405>), or the Philadelphia Youth Sports Collaborative (<https://www.pysc.org/donate/>).