



Michael A. Brown MD

December 23, 1950 - December 8, 2020

On December 8th 2020, Michael A. Brown, MD, loving husband and father of four children, passed away at the age of 69.

Michael was born December 23, 1950 in Springfield, OH, to Charles and Dorothy Brown. Michael graduated from Bearden High School in Knoxville, TN in 1968, graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1972 and went on to receive his Medical Degree at Duke University School of Medicine in 1976. Michael completed his residency in Internal Medicine and Fellowship in Pulmonary Disease and Critical Care Medicine at the University of Florida in 1982.

Michael had a passion for critical care medicine and in 1982 partnered with Dr. Frank Messina to create the Pensacola Lung Group (PLG) in Pensacola, FL. Michael practiced pulmonary and critical care medicine with the PLG for 23 years. He was known and respected for his kindness and compassion by his colleagues, staff and patients alike. In 2006, he left private practice to serve as Vice President of Medical Affairs at Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola, FL.

In 2013 Michael served as a Hospitalist at Sacred Heart Hospital On The Gulf in Port St Joe, Florida until moving to Windermere, FL in 2014. In Windermere, FL Michael worked at the Health Central Hospital as Director of the Chest

Center until his retirement in 2016.

Michael enjoyed travel, SCUBA diving and boating with his family. He was also an avid cyclist, runner, and lover of outdoor sports. Michael had a razor sharp wit and loved history. He was blessed with a photographic memory and amazed everyone by his ability to answer any trivia question no matter how esoteric the subject.

Michael is preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Dorothy Brown, and his son Colin Brown. He is survived by his wife, Anna, and his three children Logan, Alessandra, and Julia, his brother, Mark Brown (Kelli), sister Kristy Huntley (Harry), his sister in law Siki Giunta, and nephew Jack Huntley.

The family has planned a private service. In lieu of flowers, donations in his honor may be made to the Lewy Body Dementia Association at LBDA.org

The family of Dr. Michael A. Brown invites you to leave a message of condolence on the Tribute Wall created in his loving memory.

Tribute Wall



“ I was thinking about Dr. Brown today, he was my asthma doctor years ago. Reading the comments here about him, two thoughts stand out, he was "compassionate and Kind." He definitely was. He definitely had that aura about him and was the most caring doctor I've ever know.



Judy Peters - August 06, 2025 at 03:23 PM



“ I saw Dr. Brown many years ago when I was really suffering with asthma attacks. He had such a kind, reassuring approach and I never forgot him. I just now saw his obituary and I was so saddened to hear that he passed in 2020.



Judy Peters - April 11, 2024 at 12:13 PM

RK

*“ Anna, I learned that Michael had left this world and I just wanted to express for Ed and myself how very sorry for your loss. I suppose the thing that some comfort can come in is that he now longer struggles with this awful neurological disease. I am hoping that I will be able to find comfort in this thought. I know from experience that it was so difficult to loose Michael a little each day. A very painful process and mostly lonely process.
I am thankful for the few short months we were able to be with you and Michael as we all tried to battle this disease and hopefully stay ahead of it. He was a blessing to watch as he fought and remained brave in face of the battle. My prayers are with you as you continue life without him. Rose Knickman*

Rose Knickman - February 10, 2021 at 11:08 AM

JV

“ Dear Family,

I was so saddened to hear about the passing of Dr. Brown - I worked alongside Dr. Brown in ICU and the Open Heart Units at Sacred Heart Hospital for many years - he was extremely knowledgeable in critical care medicine and I was always so glad to hear when he would be consulted to assist us with the care and treatment of the very sick and vulnerable patient's. Dr. Brown was an awesome teacher and role model to us all!

With Love,

Jeanette De Vries, R.N.

Jeanette De Vries - January 01, 2021 at 10:33 AM

JW

“ I had been thinking a lot about my dear friend Michael Brown this year. I spend a fair bit of my life in the ICU at Sacred Heart Hospital. Like Dr. Brown, I have constantly refined my life to the core of what I am good at and what is important to me. I am typing this in a small office outside of room 470 during a particularly problematic year for health care workers, front line workers and to be honest the country.



And that brings me back to Dr. Michael Brown. He is one of the few physician friends I have had in my three decade medical career. Generally physicians don't like to associate with each other outside of work. It is too much like work time when we bump into each other in hallways, in patient rooms, in meetings or in moments of crisis.

So why have I spent so much of this year thinking about Michael? I think it is because we are both restless souls, forever searching for some internal crystallization of what is important to us. We both believe in trimming away what is unnecessary or harmful in our lives, like a surgeon's knife trying to achieve good with a sharp edge. We are both willing to make hard decisions about what is irrelevant, a distraction or an impediment to happiness; more importantly, the greater good for ourselves, our families and our patients.

More importantly than my friendship with Michael, is that he represents a rare role model for me. He is among the handful (and I mean less than five) physicians who have influenced me to be a better physician and human being. His ability as a physician has been at times awe-inspiring for me. I constantly refining my ideas by asking myself what he would have done in the same situation.

I miss him so much. I will always think of him in the present tense because he lives on inside of me day to day. Hopefully I will inspire someone to do the same for me.

John Wagner - December 18, 2020 at 05:35 PM

TC

“ *Mark, Kelli, and family,
We were so sad to hear about your loss. We will keep you all in our prayers.
God bless,
Candy and Tom Connolly*

Tom Connolly - December 16, 2020 at 06:30 PM

LM

“ *I had the pleasure of working with Dr. Brown for many years at Sacred Heart. He was very compassionate with his patients and the same with the staff that worked with him. He truly treated others the way he would want to be treated.
I remember hearing him talk about his wife and children and the joy that he shared with them. Also, with a twinkle in his eyes, he would describe his trips to Italy so vividly that I couldn't wait to go. I remember when I finally went to Italy it was indeed how he described and I thought of him. I can only imagine the number of people's lives that he touched in some way. Well done Dr. Brown, rest in peace.*

*My sincere condolences to Dr. Brown's family.
Lisa Masterson*

Lisa Masterson - December 14, 2020 at 12:57 AM

WM

“ Dear Mrs. Brown and Family,

I was saddened this week to read in the Pensacola News Journal about Michael's death. I was briefly acquainted with Mike and Frank Messina when we were at the University of Florida completing our training, me in Pediatric Cardiology and they in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. We then reconnected when Mike moved to Pensacola and started his Pulmonary practice, coincidentally living just around the corner from my family on Semoran Drive.

I cannot adequately express the esteem and respect I had for Mike over the years. Ernest Hemingway once wrote that "people are dying now who have never died before." When one ponders the absurdity of that line, you begin to understand that thousands of people, particularly in a medical career, come in contact with us during our lives. Most leave a casual impression and move on, die if you will to our consciousness. Mike however, left a permanent graceful impression, and he will never be forgotten. I worked closely with him when he was the VPMA for Sacred Heart and I was the director of the Children's Hospital. We would regularly dialogue and commiserate about various staff problems and misbehaving physicians. Mike was always first concerned about patients' welfare and their health first and foremost and approached his position of authority with dignity and grace. He was truly in my memory the paradigm of what a doctor should be both to his patients and staff. He will truly be missed by a great many people!!

I am certain that Mike, as he approaches our Lord in Heaven, will hear those glorious words... "Well done my good and faithful servant!"

William B. Blanchard, M.D.

William B. Blanchard, M.D. - December 12, 2020 at 04:50 PM

BC

“ Michael and I were high school classmates. I remember him as a really brilliant student that I looked up to. Things always seemed easy for him, and he approached everything with a smile. I have often looked back on my own medical training and career and thought how I so felt he had an impact on any success I’ve had because I admired him so much. I’m praying for family.
Bob Crawley

Bob Crawley - December 11, 2020 at 09:56 PM



“ Mark, I am very sorry to hear of Michael's passing! I know that you and he shared many of the same hobbies and interests, and that part of the reason for your move from Knoxville to Florida was to be closer to your brother. I am happy for you for the time you were able to spend with Michael, and I might add, one can't have too many hobbies and interests! Keeps life fun!



David Liles - December 11, 2020 at 01:18 PM



Dr Michael Brown was the most compassionate, kind, skilled Physician I've had the honor to work with for almost ten years beginning when the two new Pulmonologist came to Pensacola, Fl. to establish Pensacola Lung Group. His patients adored & respected him. He had so many gifts of true humanity. He was a joy to work with in the private practice as well as his tenure as V.P. Of Medical Affairs. He was calm, articulate & analytical. He was truly an exceptional Physician & person. My deepest sympathies for his family. Laura Dennison

Laura Dennison - December 12, 2020 at 09:43 AM

 David
Feldman

“ I was only blessed to have known Mike for the last year or so but in that time I quickly learned, despite the challenges of his devastating illness, what a warm and loving husband, father, brother and brother-in-law he was. He was incredibly intelligent and loved a great board game and just sharing joy with his family. I'm so happy we were able to spend last Christmas together and a wonderful family trip to Punta Cana. I know his departure leaves a gaping hole in the hearts of his loved ones and I hope we can all keep the wonderful memories alive and know he is reunited with his beloved son. My sincerest condolences and love to Anna, Logan, Ale, Julia, Mark, my fiancée Siki and all those whose lives were touched by this gentle and very special man. David Feldman

David Feldman - December 10, 2020 at 08:42 PM

RP

“ I remember Mike from Bearden High School. I was in several classes with him, and I remember him as a very nice and smart guy. My deepest sympathy. Ruth Schweitzer Pratt BHS 1968

Ruth Schweitzer Pratt - December 10, 2020 at 06:19 PM

LL

“ Dr. Brown always had a smile for everyone at Sacred Heart. He was a kind and gentle soul. Sending prayers to his family. So sad to learn of his passing.

Leslie Lacoy - December 10, 2020 at 03:36 PM

CS

“ *Dr. Brown was one of the kindest individuals I have ever known. With his soft easy going manner, he will be sorely missed. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and may their cherished memories lift them up at this difficult time.*

~Cari Shaw

Cari Shaw - December 10, 2020 at 10:35 AM

SL

“ *Dr. Brown was the best! He was my first asthma doctor, and as a respiratory therapist, I spent many hours and days working with him as well!! He was the kindest most compassionate man I think I ever had the pleasure of meeting and working with! The world is a lesser place without him! My heartfelt condolences to his family!*

Sheila Looney - December 10, 2020 at 09:57 AM

LN

“ *I worked with Dr Brown in the 90's at Sacred Heart. He was such a kind soul and a genuine person. He always had time to teach and answer your questions. He was an excellent physician, who went above and beyond for his patients and the staff. He LOVED to talk about his children and how they light up his life was evident in his stories. My prayers for your family. May you all find comfort in the good memories of this wonderful man.*

Lisa Nowling - December 10, 2020 at 09:50 AM

SI

“ *Cara Anna,
ricordiamo Mike quando abitavate a Scenic Highway in Pensacola.
Era una persona gentile, affettuosa e disponibile.
Ti siamo vicini.
Adriana e Piero Simonetti*

Simonetti - December 10, 2020 at 09:49 AM

JT

“ *One of the finest physicians I ever had the blessing to work with at Sacred Heart when he came there in 1982. He brought top notch pulmonary care to Pensacola, and yet kept his sense of humor with nursing staff. Many patients were fortunate that he was their doctor. My thoughts and prayers are with family, friends and colleagues. Rest in Peace Dr. Brown.*

*Julie Barfield Terrell, RN
St. Joseph's Hall, 1980-1985*

Julie Terrell - December 10, 2020 at 09:09 AM

DE

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with Dr. Brown's family. He was one of the most caring and compassionate doctors I have had the honor of working beside. The world is a better place because he was in it. Rest easy, Dr. Brown.*

Delila - December 10, 2020 at 08:54 AM

MD

“ My condolences and prayers for each of you. Words can't describe my admiration for Dr Brown, he was my boss at PLG for many years, but more than that he was my Friend. He was and always will be, very special to me and my family. Dr Brown always took the time to talk anytime I needed a listening ear. All his patients loved him. My funniest memory was when he came to work in a Toucan costume, for Halloween. It was so out of character, he was always so very neatly dressed . Anna you were so good for him, he loved you and his family so much. May you feel Gods peace at this difficult time. Love you all very much. Mary Davis

Mary Davis - December 09, 2020 at 09:31 PM