



Dr. Jeffrey R. Folk

October 23, 1956 - May 12, 2021

Dr. Jeffrey R. Folk, beloved husband, father, grandfather and healthcare leader passed away on May 12, 2021 at his home in Newnan, GA, surrounded by his loving family after a year long battle with pancreatic cancer. Jeff was born on October 23, 1956 in Reading, PA, to Raymond and Mary Lou Folk. He is survived by his loving wife of 35 years, Mary Ann, his three children Kristen (Folk) Conaway, Lauren (Folk) Ercolini and Christopher Folk, and his granddaughter, Reagan Conaway.

Jeff had an impressive career having spent 35 years as a physician and 20 years as a healthcare leader. He graduated summa cum laude from Albright College before attending Temple University School of Medicine. He completed fellowships in Internal Medicine and Cardiology at Geisinger Medical Center and in 1997 graduated from King's College with his Master's in Healthcare Administration.

Residing in northeastern Pennsylvania from 1985 to 2010, Jeff worked for 22 years at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center in Wilkes-Barre, where he rose to Medical Director in 2002. Described by the Chairman of the Board as a "visionary," Jeff led the organization through many transformative milestones. His accomplishments included designing and spear heading construction of the Pearsall Heart Hospital, establishing the Janet Weis Pediatric Unit and pediatric hospitalist program, recruiting key talent for the organization and improving operational efficiencies across multiple areas of the hospital.

In 2010, Jeff spent a year as Chief of Cardiology at ABQ HealthPartners (currently known as DaVita Medical Group) in Albuquerque, NM, where he helped make significant financial improvements - all while expanding programs and upgrading essential equipment.

For the past 10 years, Jeff worked as Chief Medical Officer for Piedmont Newnan Hospital in Newnan, GA, before retiring in April 2021. During his first year there, Piedmont Newnan earned its first Leapfrog "A" Hospital Safety Grade, a top grade the hospital earned 12 consecutive times under Jeff's leadership. Jeff also led Piedmont Newnan to earn top awards for Patient Safety, ranking the organization among the top 10 hospitals in the country for patient safety and clinical excellence.

Known for his excellent listening skills and famous candy jar, Jeff was a beloved mentor to countless healthcare professionals. Despite rising to executive levels, he never stopped

working for his patients and community. Jeff continued to see patients whenever possible and spent time volunteering as a cardiologist at Coweta Samaritan Clinic.

Whenever he was not at the hospital, Jeff could usually be found on the golf course or working in his model train garden. He loved to travel the world with his wife and children – sharing wonderful experiences with them like biking through historic cities in Europe, going on safari in Africa or feeding the kangaroos in Australia. Never one to miss the opportunity for a good joke or witty comment, Jeff will be remembered for his sense of humor which he eloquently displayed during the speeches he gave at his daughters' weddings. He will be deeply missed by his friends, family, and all who knew him.

A viewing will be held at McKoon Funeral Home from 4:00 to 7:00 PM on Sunday, May 16th, followed by a funeral mass at Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic Church at 10:30 AM on Monday, May 17th. Jeff will be buried in his home state of Pennsylvania on Wednesday, May 19th. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Coweta Samaritan Clinic (137 Jackson Street, Newnan, GA 30263).

Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.mckoon.com

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory (770) 253-4580.

Previous Events

Viewing

MAY 16. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home and Crematory
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-4580

Funeral Mass

MAY 17. 10:30 AM (ET)

Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic Church
3 Village Rd.
Newnan, GA 30265

Tribute Wall

MJ

“ *Maryann and family,
We were so sorry to hear of Dr. Jeff's passing. He was a kind, caring man whose memories will provide much comfort to you, his children and grandchildren. Hope he is enjoying a cup of coffee with Uncle Frankie and Aunt Anna!
Mimi and Lance Jones*

Mimi Jones - May 22, 2021 at 10:16 AM

JC

“ *We were so sad to hear this. We hold all of you in our prayers. His impact in our world was a great one. He was a man of faith who was a bright light for Christ in a hurting world. May God hold you steady. Pastors Jan and Doug Clark*

Janet B Clark - May 19, 2021 at 07:20 AM

CB

“ *Fred often spoke of Jeff as such a top notch cardiologist when they worked together. I remember Jeff as a consummate gentleman. Jeff and Maryanne have raised a beautiful, loving family. They are the best legacy Jeff could leave. Our heartfelt condolences and many prayers to the Folk family
Cyndy and Fred Bloom*

Cyndy Bloom - May 18, 2021 at 08:52 AM

AN

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family. I worked with Dr. Folk for many years at Gwv. He was an amazing physician and a truly great man. He will be truly missed by many. RIP*

Andrea Newberry - May 17, 2021 at 11:53 PM

LS

“ *I was just so incredibly sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. Folk. He was a classy, intelligent, and kind man in addition to being very accomplished. He has been in my daily prayers and your family will remain there. I wish you some measure of peace during this very difficult time! Linda Stokes*

Linda Stokes - May 17, 2021 at 07:22 AM

KL

“ *Kristin Marie Leone lit a candle in memory of Dr. Jeffrey R. Folk*



Kristin Marie Leone - May 16, 2021 at 12:16 PM

KL

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family of Dr. Folk during this difficult time.*



Kelly Sims-PNH Laboratory - May 15, 2021 at 06:14 PM

GL

“ *Deepest condolences. Will always remember Dr Folk as a highly skilled cardiologist, and teacher, and a real gentleman. The Pearsall Heart Hospital will remain testament of his vision and executives skills, and will remain his legacy in NEPA. When I think of him, his humor and quick wit always brought a smile. Rest In Peace.*
Gerry Lacey

Gerry Lacey - May 15, 2021 at 08:30 AM

DS

“ *My deepest sympathies to all of Dr. Folk's family and friends. It was an honor to work with him and learn from him. He was a kind, gentle soul. May you find comfort in all the lives that he touched. Rest In Peace Doc!*

Denise Skrzysowski

denise skrzysowski - May 14, 2021 at 07:49 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Jeffrey R. Folk.*



May 14, 2021 at 07:28 PM

CG

“ It was my privilege and honor to know and work with Dr Jeff Folk. I went to help start the open-heart program in 2001 at GWV and since then we have been friends and in touch as our careers took different paths. Wonderful man and I will pray for peace for his family ,he will be missed. Godspeed

Catherine Gegaris - May 14, 2021 at 06:40 PM

DN

“ My God hold your family in the palm of his hands during this time of great sorrow. Dr Folk lead by example with knowledge and compassion. My highest admiration for this man

Diane Blaski,GWV  nurse - May 14, 2021 at 05:54 PM

LB

“ My deepest condolences to family and friends. Rest In Peace Dr. Folk. Sincerely,
Lisa Barge

lisa barge - May 14, 2021 at 04:57 PM

SW

“ My deepest sympathy to the family. As a Geisinger nurse in the Coronary Care Unit, I saw Dr Folk frequently. Such a kind person and excellent doctor. He will be missed. So sad to hear of his passing.
Susan Wimmer

Susan Wimmer - May 14, 2021 at 04:29 PM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Jeffrey R. Folk.



May 14, 2021 at 03:51 PM

CD

“ Charlie & Dianne purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Dr. Jeffrey R. Folk.



Charlie & Dianne - May 14, 2021 at 02:32 PM



“ Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Dr. Jeffrey R. Folk.



May 14, 2021 at 01:33 PM

LD

“ Deepest sympathy to Maryann and family . So very sorry 🙏 Lorraine Daniels

Lorraine Daniels - May 14, 2021 at 12:45 PM

MG

Maryann and family I am so sorry for your loss. You can certainly find comfort in all of your good Memories of Jeff and your dad. What a brilliant and kind hearted man.

mary jean gallagher - May 14, 2021 at 02:39 PM

CM

“ Mary Ann and family,
So very sad and sorry to hear of Jeff's passing, but knowing he is out of pain and gone home to play that 18 has to be somewhat comforting for you. Please know that you all are in my thoughts and prayers as you say goodbye to this loving husband, father, grandfather and friend. With love and sympathy, Carol McKenzie

Carol S McKenzie - May 14, 2021 at 11:55 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Jeffrey R. Folk.



May 14, 2021 at 11:05 AM

LC

“ Dr. Folk was an amazing Leader and Mentor to me. He taught me so much in the 10 years I worked with him. Knowing, I could always count on his encouragement and support meant the world to me.

Mary Ann and family,

May you find comfort in knowing, those we love, don't go away, they walk beside us every day, unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed.

Rest well Dr. Folk

Lynn Cawthorne - May 14, 2021 at 10:58 AM

LC

“ Lynn Cawthorne lit a candle in memory of Dr. Jeffrey R. Folk



Lynn Cawthorne - May 14, 2021 at 10:24 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Dr. Jeffrey R. Folk.



May 14, 2021 at 10:06 AM