



# Dr. Michael R. Manning

OCT 19, 1944 - DEC 18, 2015



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## **Dr. Michael R. Manning**

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**D**r. Michael R. Manning, 71, a prominent Tucson physician passed away on Friday, December 18, 2015.

Dr. Manning was a fourth generation Tucsonan and graduate of Rincon High School and the University of Arizona. Upon completion of his Bachelors of Science in 1968 Dr. Manning pursued graduate studies at the U of A, later spending time as a medical technician with the 152nd Fighter Intercept Squadron with the Arizona Air National Guard.

Dr. Manning entered the University of Arizona College of Medicine in the fall of 1969 completing his degree in June of 1973. Dr. Manning spent time at the Cleveland Clinic and later completed a fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco. Upon completion of residency Dr. Manning joined the faculty at the University Medical Center in radiation oncology and helped establish the Arizona Cancer Center.

During his tenure Dr. Manning participated in numerous clinical research programs, most notably the use of hyperthermia as a cancer treatment. This later became the subject of two books writ-ten and edited by Dr. Manning as well as over 50 peer-reviewed articles in medical publications.

Upon leaving the University of Arizona Dr. Manning helped develop the largest radiation oncology private practice in southern Arizona. His specialties included head and neck malignancies, soft tissue sarcomas, brachytherapy and stereotactic radiation.

Born in 1944 to parents Marjorie Sullinger Manning and Dr. Wilkins R. Manning, Dr. Manning en-joyed deep roots within the community. His lineage dates back to former Tucson mayor Levi Howell Manning, surveyor general for the Arizona Territory, cotton farmer at the Canoa Ranch, developer of the Santa Rita Hotel, the Owl's Club, Seinfeld Mansion and the Manning House. His father, Dr. W.R. Manning was the co-founding physician of the University of Arizona School of Medicine, former president of the Arizona Medical Association and Pima Medical Society who



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served on the State Board of Medical Examiners and was chief of staff at both Pima County and St. Mary's Hospitals.

Colleagues will remember him as a leader, confidant and friend. Patients have described him as "truly caring, warm, compassionate and insightful" using accolades such as encouraging, empathetic, supportive, professional, sensitive, hopeful, advocate and father-figure.

Dr. Manning is survived by his wife Elaine Manning; daughter Catie Novogradac (Brian), grandson Mason Manning Novogradac, and sister Muggsy Manning Hildreth. He will forever be remembered by nieces Heidi Montijo, Egan Whitley (Kevin), nephew Michael Hildreth (Anita), sister-in-law Clarice Mathis and many other extended family members, colleagues and friends.

A toast to Dr. Manning will be held on Wednesday, December 30, from 4:30 to 5:30 PM at the Tucson Country Club, 2950 N. Camino Principal.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Arizona Oncology Foundation, 2625 N. Craycroft, Suite 100, Tucson, AZ 85712 ([www.arizonaoncologyfoundation.org](http://www.arizonaoncologyfoundation.org)).



## Events


**Dr. Michael R. Manning**

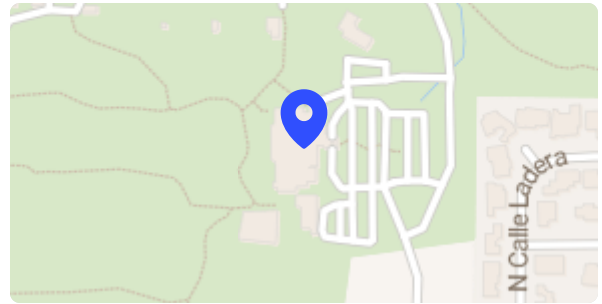
OCT 19, 1944 - DEC 18, 2015

### Celebration of Life

 **Wednesday**, December 30, 2015

 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM MT

 **Tucson Country Club**  
2950 N. Camino Principal, Tucson AZ 85715





## Tribute Wall

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CG

**Christian Goins** posted:

So sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. Manning. Wonderful man, great doctor, compassionate caregiver who made the unbearable pain, more bearable. celebrating over a year of being cancer free thanks to him. Chris Goins

January 27 at 12:15 PM

JD

**Jenny Dodson** posted:

Elaine and Catie, I've worked with Mike for 35 years, starting as a therapy student at UMC and then at Arizona Oncology, lately as our physician at the St. Mary's office. He was a good teacher and an absolute straight shooter, both qualities I highly respected in him. I will miss seeing him at work, miss him as a boss, but also as a friend. I'll always remember the "old days", fun office parties, a little wine drinking and a lot of laughing! He was a great guy, but know that he will be not only be missed, he will be remembered. Jenny Dodson

January 1 at 8:16 AM



**Ann-Bob Porter** posted:

Our most heartfelt condolences. Although it has been a few years since our last contact we think of you all many times. May God bless. Ann (Lewis) and Bob Porter.

December 30 at 8:04 AM

DC

**Denise Carrillo** posted:

I will miss Mike on an everyday basis-I had the pleasure of reconnecting with him the last few years at our St. Marys office. I met the "Mikes" Manning and Moore in the head and neck clinic at the university hospital, I was the nurse. Mike Manning talked me into coming down to Rad Onc and the next thing I knew I was in the Radiation Therapy program and attending poets club (Happy Hour) with the department. That was over 30 years ago-he was my boss, mentor but most of all my friend. Elaine and Catie stay strong and drink wine-he would have wanted that! I will miss my birthday buddy!!! Denise Carrillo

December 29 at 8:42 AM



## Tribute Wall

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RS

**Richard Sexton** posted:

It was my honor to spend the last 10 of my 40 year administrative career working for the physicians of Arizona Oncology. Dr. Manning was a leader in his field and a caring individual. He cared for his patients and for the staff with whom he worked to bring direction, comfort and healing to the community. He will be missed by all. Thank you Dr. Manning for being an influence in all of our lives. Richard Sexton, former practice administrator.

December 29 at 6:37 AM

ES

**Eric P. Sipos, Md** posted:

Mike Manning has been a cherished friend and colleague for nearly 16 years - since I first moved to Tucson. We've worked together to care for countless patients during that time and Mike has always been a perfect example of the kindness, compassion, caring, and professionalism all physicians should strive for. When we began work to create the Carondelet Neurological Institute, Mike was an obvious choice for the multidisciplinary team that developed the neurooncology program and brought radiosurgery to the CNI. Without Mike's support and commitment to the program, I doubt we could have accomplished our goals. Finally, I saw Mike transition from caregiver to patient - not easy for anyone, especially a physician - yet Mike tackled this challenge like he did everything else. He remained optimistic, brave, and kind to the very end. He did everything in his power to soften the blow of his terrible illness on family, friends, and colleagues. Dr. Mike Manning will be sorely missed. I will not be in Tucson to join personally in the Celebration of Life this week, but my most sincere condolences go to his family, friends, and patients. I will uncork a bottle in his memory and join in a toast from Utah. Rest in peace, my friend.

December 28 at 4:08 PM



# Tribute Wall

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**Andy Cosentino** posted:

I had the privilege of working with Dr. Manning, as we planned, and built the Carondelet Neurological Institute. Mike was a gentleman's gentleman. He was always optimistic, never uttered a disparaging word, and always focused on what was best for his patients. He was visionary in his thinking, and his enthusiasm for building a better health system was inspiring. Mike will certainly be missed. Please accept my sincere condolences on your loss. Andy Cosentino

December 28 at 3:31 AM



**Cindy Ruedy** January 12 at 2:46 AM

Elaine & Catie -No words can express the sadness I felt when Jennifer told me of Mike's passing. So many wonderful memories from "back in the day" as Catie-Coo & Jennifer were growing up! My heart goes out to you both. With much love, Cindy Ruedy (Jefferson)



**Catie Nocogradac** December 28 at 12:34 PM

Thank you for your kind words. Dad spoke very highly of you as well. We will all miss him.



**Marita Bowden** posted:

Dear Catie - I am so sorry to learn of your Dad's passing. I first met your Dad and Mom when you and my daughter were BFF in elementary school. He would come to pick you up at the house and it was so evident that you were the light of his life. Though it has been many years since I've seen you or your Dad, I always remember that he was such a nice person with a kind word for everyone. Dads and daughters have special relationships; treasure yours. While the holidays tend to magnify your loss, you will look back and think about how wonderful they were. Mike, Elaine and Catie made a very fine family. Marita Bowden

December 28 at 3:09 AM



**Mel Inaz** lit a candle in honor of Michael.

I am so sad to see Dr. Manning has passed. I was his sales professional for luxury goods, and I can say he honestly was just the sweetest man, and client I've ever known. May God bless, and comfort his family at this time. Prayers and support, Melissa Schulte



December 27 at 6:16 PM



**Catie Novogradac** December 28 at 12:37 PM

Thank you so much.



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EG

**Edythe Gissing** lit a candle in honor of Michael.

My husband and I were deeply saddened to read of Dr. Manning's passing. He was my husband's Doctor. We trusted Dr. Manning. He was a wonderful man. We shall miss his smiling face . Our thoughts are with his family. Cherish your memories. May Dr. Manning rest in peace. Bruce and Edythe Gissing, Tucson ,AZ



December 27 at 5:07 PM

GG

**Gene And Sandy Gerner** posted:

We were deeply saddened to learn about Mike's death. It seems like only yesterday that you and Mike attended our wedding at Gates Pass, now almost 34 years ago. Mike, as best man, handed Gene a substitute plastic smiley face ring to place on my finger. This is a fond memory we have shared many times. We will be in California for the toast to Mike's life, but we will toast him nevertheless. We send love and sympathy to you and Catie and the rest of your family. Gene and Sandy Gerner

December 27 at 3:37 PM

CN

**Cheryl Nichols** posted:

I have been a patient of Dr. Manning for the past 15 years and was very saddened to hear of his passing. When I was first diagnosed of cancer, and feeling very frightened and confused, Dr. Manning was so kind, patient and empathetic and helped to put some of my fears at ease. Although I still don't like doctor visits, I did look forward to seeing him each year for a checkup, just to get that warm handshake and big smile. I'm sure he will be missed by many and my prayers are with your family. Cheryl Nichols

December 27 at 9:36 AM

ME

**Maurice Elefant** posted:

Our deepest condolences to the Manning family for the the loss of a truly great man and physician. Dr Manning cared for me with professionalism and compassion through the difficulties of my cancer treatment . I am truly sorry that I will not be able to share with him in a few months what will hopefully be my 5 year anniversary being cancer free. It will be in large part due to what he did for me. Peace and comfort to the family.

December 27 at 5:20 AM



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ME

**Maurice Elefant** posted:

Our deepest condolences to the Manning family for their loss of a truly great man and physician. Dr Manning cared for me with professionalism and compassion through the worst of my cancer ordeal and for nearly 5 years of follow up care. I am so sorry to not be able to share with him in a few months what I hope will be my 5 year anniversary of being cancer free. it will be in large part because of what he did for me. Peace and comfort to all. Maurice Elefant and Shelba Mullins

December 27 at 4:15 AM

LA

**Leigh Andrew** posted:

It is always tough to lose a loved one during the holidays, I know because I lost my mother the day before Thanksgiving. To lose a man with great integrity and great work in his field. It is tough to lose a father, husband and friend during this time. My heart and prayers goes out to you and know that many share in your grief during this time. God bless all of you and may God's Grace be present with you during this time in your life. Leigh Andrew

December 27 at 3:30 AM

DL

**Diane Levey** posted:

I had the pleasure to work with Dr. Manning from 1979 thru 2000, Mike was a compassionate and very giving person. Mike loved his wine, and knew his wine. I was always afraid to let him choose the wine for our holiday parties. Because the wines were more expensive than the meals. Mike touched a lot of people within the community. We will all miss you. Our condolences to Elaine and Catie as well as the entire Manning family. RIP

December 26 at 9:46 AM



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JH

**Janet Harvey** posted:

Dear Elaine, Catie and family, you are in our thoughts and prayers. Mike was such a special person and friend of my brother Paul (de Madeira). I remember when Mike spoke at Paul's service. I'm sure Paul and Mike are together now. I know Mike helped so many people. We are so sorry for your loss. Sincerely, Janet, Harry, Allison and Aimee Harvey.

December 26 at 7:33 AM

SH

**Susan Husband** December 30 at 2:48 AM

Dr. Manning was a ray of sunshine through dark clouds. I feel blessed that he helped my family, even though it has been years ago. The world is a little dimmer today. My best wishes to his family and close friends at this difficult time. Susan H.

DM

**Dan Murphy** December 28 at 5:27 PM

My family moved from New Mexico to Tucson in 1956, when I was in the 8th grade. We lived a block and a half west of the boundary between Tucson High and Rincon High, and because of that rather arbitrary line in the sand, Mike and I graduated from different high schools in '61 and '62. Tucson was a small town then--Wilmot was paved, but not much was east of it. Still, I remember Mike as a talented running back on Rincon's gridiron. I finally got to meet Mike in 1984, when I was an Intern at Tucson Med Center. He was an experienced Radiation Oncologist, and he answered my request for an inpatient consultation. My aim was to practice Radiation Oncology, so it was a treat to meet him. He treated me like a colleague, giving me kindness and respect that is far outside the usual experience of Interns and Resident physicians! He was genuinely warm, engaging, and low key, toppling any barriers that might interfere with developing a relationship with him, either professional or personal. I sensed he made no distinctions between other people's "levels" in life. His patients became his friends--an important lesson for me, an "elderly" Intern! A few years ago, I discovered a soft tissue mass, and having treated quite a number of them in my radiation practice, I knew I needed a proper step-by-step workup. I called Mike from New Mexico, and within an hour or two, he made arrangements for a scan, a visit with him, and with a surgeon, if the scan held the key for intervention. Fortunately, the mass was benign, a great relief, of course, but it was clear that Mike was even more joyful than Erin and I were! Mike and I have had a number of telephone chats in the past year. We talked about life in Tucson in the "old days," about the same people we had encountered in those days, about how our early professional directions were so closely similar, about his recent diagnosis and treatment, and about spiritual things, including the Gospel. One doesn't practice our medical specialty without knowing the details of Mike's diagnosis and outlook. Over and over, I was deeply moved by Mike's optimism, courage, and enthusiastic willingness to accept and prevail over aggressive treatment plans. He never gave up nor did he ever give in. I could see he inspired himself in much the same way he inspired his patients. We discussed his family and his love for them, and we discussed God's "good news," the Gospel. Once again Mike and I were in parallel alignment, and although I shall miss him and our discussions, I take considerable comfort in knowing exactly where Mike



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JH

is right now. It is said that in terms of an eternity of time ahead, our separation from Mike is but a brief instant of time. I pray for all who know Mike can and will take the same comfort. I am truly blessed to have known Mike Manning. Dan Murphy, PhD, MD and Erin Murphy

JD

**Judy Robertson Davis** December 28 at 5:27 AM

Dear Manning Family, I am Judy Robertson Davis. When I first came to Tucson, I was introduced to this wonderful family. I was able to enjoy the family with adjacent seats in the AZ football stadium. It was always a joy to be there at the same time as Elaine and Mike. What a wonderful man. It is hard to believe the world has lost him. I send my love, prayers and affection to each of you as you transition into a world without Mike. Fondly, Judy



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Michael by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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