

Dr. Pedro Juan Soberanis Aguilar

May 4, 1948 - December 8, 2018

Dr. Pedro Juan Soberanis Aguilar, 70, of Merida, Yucatan, Mexico and Columbus, Ohio, passed away peacefully on December 8, 2018 surrounded by family. He battled lung and brain cancer. He is survived by his wife, Aireen; daughter Angelica and her husband Benjamin, son Alain and his wife Jennifer; sisters, Mercedes, Victoria Eugenia, and Zulema; grandchildren, Coby and Ethan; and many other relatives and friends near and far. Dr. Aguilar will be fondly remembered by family and friends as a loving, generous, kind, dedicated, and humble individual.

Dr. Aguilar practiced as a Colon and Rectal Surgeon for 37 years. He graduated magna cum laude from Universidad Autonomo de Yucatan, School of Medicine in 1972 from the University of Yucatan in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico. He was a medical intern at De Paul Hospital in Norfolk, Virginia prior to completing general surgery residencies at both Saint Barnabas Medical Center in New Jersey and Charleston Area Medical Center in West Virginia, where he served as chief surgical resident. He was a fellow at Grant Medical Center, in Columbus, Ohio prior to becoming a faculty member of the Colon and Rectal Surgery program from 1981 to 1991.

While at Grant Medical Center, Dr. Aguilar served as program director of the Colon and Rectal Surgery program from 1991 to 2015, and associate director of the program from 2015 to 2017. From 2000 to 2002 he was the chairman of

the Department of Surgery. As program director of Grant Hospital's Colon and Rectal Surgery Residency Training program, Dr. Aguilar dedicated his time, knowledge, and support to the training and mentoring of over one hundred colon and rectal fellows locally and internationally, providing monthly lectures, coordinating journal clubs, and earning Teacher of the Year award in 1988, the Baldwin Award in 2017, and the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2018.

Dr. Aguilar was a member of American Medical Association, American College of Surgeons, American College of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, SAGES, Sociedad Mexicana de Colon y Ano, Ohio Valley Society Colon Rectal Surgeons, Ohio State Medical Association, Columbus Medical Association, and Columbus Surgical Society, Philippine Society of Central Ohio, and Latin Ladies and Friends organization. He also served as past president of Ohio Valley Society of Colon Rectal Surgeons.

In addition to his work at Grant Medical Center, Dr. Aguilar participated in medical mission trips to the Philippines, Ethiopia, and Mexico and served as health advisor for the Latino Empowerment Outreach Network. He enjoyed tailgating at the Ohio State University Buckeye games and cheering on the Columbus Clippers, Columbus Blue Jackets, Columbus Crew, and University of North Carolina Tarheels. He also enjoyed getting together for family reunions, watching Cantiflas movies, listening to mariachi bands and jazz concerts, and attending local festivals and social gatherings.

Dr. Pedro Aguilar's values of being a good citizen and helping humankind were apparent in his everyday life and reflected in all the lives he touched. His legacy will have a profound and lasting impact on many lives professionally and personally. He will be deeply missed.

In lieu of flowers, donations are being accepted by the following organizations:

OhioHealth Foundation/Ralph Samson MD Memorial Endowment, OhioHealth Foundation, Grant Medical Center, website, <https://foundation.ohiohealth.com>

Medical Ministry International website, <https://mmicanada.z2systems.com/np/clients/mmicanada/donation.jsp?campaign=21&&test=true>

Please join us during calling hours on Thursday, December 13, 2018 from 4-6pm with a Celebration of Life service from 6-7pm at Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home, 515 High St., Worthington, Ohio 43085.

Additional Memorial Service will be held at 2 pm, Friday, December 14, 2018, at Grant Hospital Hugenberger Auditorium.

Previous Events

Calling Hours

DEC 13. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home
515 High Street
Worthington, OH 43085
(614) 885-4006
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

Celebration of Life

DEC 13. 6:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home
515 High Street
Worthington, OH 43085
(614) 885-4006
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

Memorial Service

DEC 14. 2:00 PM.

Grant Hospital Hugenberger Auditorium
Columbus, OH

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Pedro Juan Soberanis Aguilar*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Dear Aireen, I was shocked to learn of the death of your husband. He was a gentleman, open and available to help Latinos in Columbus. Please accept my sincere condolences and hope you find peace in times of sorrow. My heart go out to you and your family. Nora Hesse*

Nora Hesse - January 24, 2019 at 02:37 PM



“ *Dear Aireen, We were shocked and saddened to learn of the death of your husband. Please accept our sincere condolences to you and members of your family. Our hearts go out to you all. Anne and Larry Peterson*

Anne Peterson - December 17, 2018 at 10:24 AM



“ *Dear Aireen and family, We are thinking of you and praying that you find Strength, Peace and Hope to carry you through today and all the coming days. Pedro will be greatly missed. He lived a Beautiful life serving so many people. Love in Christ, Pete and Carol Galupo*

Dr. Pete and Carol Galupo - December 14, 2018 at 02:00 PM

RP

“ It is with great sadness that we find out about Dr Aguilar .He was a great teacher, educator and mentor.We have great memories throughout the years in various trips together
He will be greatly missed
Roger & Georgia Pons

Roger Pons - December 14, 2018 at 11:27 AM

PL

“ Ate Aireen, kuya Pedro will be greatly missed.Your visits to Amsterdam gave us special opportunities to get to know him better. His humility, kindness and gentleness speak louder than his words. And our visit to your place provided us great times of knowing him evenmore as a very warm and fun person, and more so as a loving husband and caring host. Our family is very grateful for the short but meaningful and fun times we had together. We will always treasure the good memories we've had with you both. May the SHALOM of GOD surround you and may the Joy of the LORD be your strength as you move forward in life without him. Much love and hugs from Phoebe, also from Martien, Naomi and Paul.

Phoebe Lagerweij - December 14, 2018 at 07:04 AM

AG

“ So sad to hear such a shocking loss... keeping in my heart forever all the stories George has told me about his loving and excellent teacher... and most of all the warmth I felt when I finally met you in Greece... It was like I knew you for years... We send you our love! Stay strong in front of your devastating loss and let his gentle character soften your pain... I prefer to end by sending you many “greek noisy kisses” and I am sure Aguilar would lough at this point...

Athina Gianniodis-Theodoropoulos - December 14, 2018 at 03:10 AM

GT

“ *My deepest condolences for the loss of one of the kindest and most dedicated teachers I had throughout the years
Always reminishing the moments with Dr Aguilar
George Theodoropoulos
Former Colorectal Fellow*

George Theodoropoulos - December 14, 2018 at 02:36 AM

NA

“ *We are saddened by Pedro's passing, Aireen. He had a lot more to offer the world in his kindness, medical skills, friendship, wisdom. Ironically, the Christmas piano CD I mailed him did not make it on time. My one regret is not having known him more, one-on-one, as he practiced at Grant and I was at Doctors' . My interaction with him was thru PASCO and the Fil Docs mini-reunions that you so wisely organized. He was brilliant and accomplished professionally but he did not flaunt these and many are ignorant about these because of his deep humility. We treated him like Filipino and with much congeniality he just went along with that, even learning some Filipino words and phrases, some pretty naughty. We will miss him. We pray for your strength, support, and comfort as you face the world without him. /Al & Terri Albarracin.*

Narciso S. Albarracin - December 13, 2018 at 02:45 PM

JO

“ Pedro and Aireen were supporters of PASCO. As former President of PASCO, I appreciated Pedro's presence and support for PASCO's event. He was a quiet and respectful man, loving to his wife and family. May you rest in peace and the perpetual light shine upon you.



Sincerely,

Joy

Joy Kouns Lewis, PhD

Joy - December 13, 2018 at 01:32 PM

RS

“ I was a patient of Dr. Aguliar for many years. He was an excellent Dr. and such a nice man. Prayers for you Aireen and the family. He will be truly missed. Rebecca Sampstill



Rebecca Sampstill - December 13, 2018 at 10:56 AM



“ Heart's Companion Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Pedro Juan Soberanis Aguilar.



December 13, 2018 at 09:24 AM

Emily Crawford

“ Emily Crawford lit a candle in memory of Dr. Pedro Juan Soberanis Aguilar



Emily Crawford - December 13, 2018 at 08:32 AM

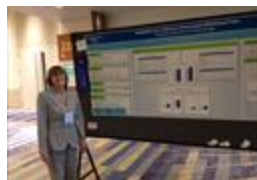
CL

“ Dr . Aguilar was my doctor for over 30 years. I was just in my 20's and he was in his early 30's and had just joined the practice. He was the most understanding, caring doctor I have ever been to.. He had a way of making you feel all was going to be ok. He always listened with patience and he always got me well... I will miss him. The world was a better place with Dr. Aguilar. Anyone who knew him was blessed,

Christine L Lisska - December 13, 2018 at 07:28 AM

BM

“ Dr Aguilar you were a inspirational professional to all the GI nurses! I appreciated you sharing your knowledge to the Ohio Regional and the national organization SGNA over 20 years. I was proud to present our GI knowledge and to have a first place poster. I will always remember you calling me Ms. Miller. I will miss all our professional conversations! -Bobbie Miller CGRN past President OSGNA



Bobbie Miller - December 12, 2018 at 11:36 PM

MS

“ To Aireen and the family: I'm very sorry to hear of Dr. Aguilar's passing; I'm sure it's a big loss to all of you. Dr. Aguilar helped me through a tough medical issue and later performed surgery for another issue, and he was the kindest, gentlest, most respectful medical professional I've ever been around. What a humble man. My sympathies to you all.
-Mike S., former patient

Mike Syfert - December 12, 2018 at 08:36 PM

SC

“ After over 25 years together, always a pleasure working with him. So sad when we heard of his illness. A great loss. My most sincere sympathy.



Sharon Crane - December 12, 2018 at 07:02 PM

DW

“ Aireen and family! We are thinking of you at this time of sorrow and in our prayers. He is completely healed now, and celebrating in heaven. God doesn't promise that the journey will be easy, but he does promise to walk with us. "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Hebrew 13:5

Love you,

Darryl and Aleta Walden

Darryl & Aleta Walden - December 12, 2018 at 06:32 PM

JM

“ Pedro, you were my dear colleague and friend since we met at Grant Hospital in late 1970. With Dr. Stewart and Susan we became an A-Team for colorectal program at central Ohio. Your kindness and humble personality and sharing of surgical technology and medical knowledge earned the respect of the medical community. We miss you, Pete.

Jerry Hsu, M.D. - December 12, 2018 at 03:34 PM

AP

“ Pedro we be missed , his dedication and love for his family was to be admired . The many years Of attending Damas Latina Gala , always with a smile and joke will be remembered . Heart felt love for his family especially Aireen at this difficult time . May Angeles wrap themself around this family .

anamaria perales-lang - December 12, 2018 at 02:28 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Pedro Juan Soberanis Aguilar.



December 12, 2018 at 02:26 PM

BL

“ Beechcroft Young Life purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Dr. Pedro Juan Soberanis Aguilar.



Beechcroft Young Life - December 12, 2018 at 01:52 PM

JC

“ *Aireen and family,
Sending you our deepest sympathy.
We have met Pedro about 2-3 times (on your wedding and trips to Toronto). He was a very remarkable human being with incredible accomplishments and missions and compassion towards his fellowmen..
Let's cherish the good deeds and the thought that he's happy in a good place with our Creator.
Keep strong as always !!Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family.
May he rest in peace..Amen !!!!*

Julia Sacayanan-De La Cruz - December 12, 2018 at 11:00 AM

AW

“ *Aireen, Everyone here at Paul Davis Restoration is saddened to learn of your lose. You and your family are in our thoughts a prayers during this difficult time. May your husband Rest in Peace.*

Adam Weigand, PDR of Columbus

Adam Weigand - December 12, 2018 at 10:58 AM

NE

“ *Aireen, my heartfelt condolence to you and your family. May our dear Lord gives you strength during this difficult time. May your dear husband Rest In Peace. 🙏*

Nora A. Escarez - December 12, 2018 at 09:57 AM

AM

“ Dear Aireen,
We are sorry and saddened to hear of the passing of your dear husband, Dr. Pedro Aguilar. Blessie and I and the rest of MMI Philippines/Asia would like to extend our sincerest sympathy and condolence to you and your family. We remembered with fondness you & Dr. Pedro joining us here in the Philippines for surgical mission. Thank you for the excellent & compassionate care you had given to our people.
Aireen, you had been his wall and anchor , and you've done well and stood by him as he fought the good fight of the faith till the end. May the loving Lord, whom Dr. Pedro loved and is now enjoying His presence, comforts you and your family with the comfort that He alone can give.
Love and grace and peace be with you at this time of your great loss.

*Best regards and blessings,
Allan and Blessie with MMI Philippines/Asia*

Allan B. Melicor - December 12, 2018 at 06:02 AM

RP

“ I am sorry for your loss, Aireen and family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time. Big hugs.
Love, Remy S Portugal-Herrick and family

Remy S Portugal-Herrick - December 12, 2018 at 04:27 AM

SA

“ Forever mentor, amigo, y hermano. God bless you my man. Til' you meet all your loved ones again. Has trabajado fuerte y hecho la obra De Dios. Descansa en paz.

Familia Arruffat

Santiago Arruffat - December 11, 2018 at 11:14 PM

MQ

“ *Mi estimado amigo Pedro Juan, fue un placer haber compartido contigo nuestros años de estudiantes en la Facultad de Medicina de la UADY, y un honor considerarme tu amiga. Viviste siempre una vida de excelencia, en todos los campos, y espero que ahora merecidamente descanses en el lugar de los elegidos. Mis condolencias y aprecio para Aireen, tus hijos, nietos y demás familia, colegas y amigos, y que esta pena de tu ausencia les sea leve, porque has pasado de vivir entre ellos y nosotros, a vivir en los corazones de cada uno. Descansa en Paz, después de una misión tan bien cumplida.*

Maria del Carmen Miranda Quezada - December 11, 2018 at 09:41 PM

MM

“ *Tío Pedro... extraordinaria persona. Con esa tranquilidad que te caracterizaba! El tío atento, que escucha. Fuiste una inspiración para seguir tus pasos en la medicina, mi orgullo ya que lograste lo que pocos, con mucho empeño y amor a tu trabajo. Un abrazo desde la distancia a Tía Aireen y primos Angelica y Alan. A mis Tías Zulema y Geny siempre atentas y a mi madre Mercedes! Mi corazón está con ustedes! Descansa en Paz Tío Pedro. Esto no es un adiós. Nos volveremos a encontrar! Tu sobrina Mechita. Merida Yuc.*

Mercedes Medina - December 11, 2018 at 06:01 PM

RS

“ Decir Adiós no es fácil y decirle adiós a un ser tan extraordinario como Pedro es más difícil aún, sólo podemos darle gracias a Dios por el tiempo que nos lo regaló en este mundo a su esposa Aireen a sus hijos Alan y Angelica a sus hijos políticos Jennifer y Ben nietos Cobi e Eitan a sus hermanas Mercedes Eugenia y Zulema que esto no es un Adiós sino un hasta pronto por que seguro estoy de que en algún momento nos volveremos a encontrar. Como médico perdemos a uno muy grande pero su legado continuará en su campo de la medicina con lo que él dejo en esta vida. Vaya pues mi oración para que el señor lo recibo en su casa y en sus brazos. Descanse en Paz Dr. Pedro Juan Aguilar Soberanis.

Ricardo Sanchez - December 11, 2018 at 04:43 PM

LL

“ Pete was a wonderful colleague and a good friend. When he was discussing important issues, sad cases, or worrisome problems, he could nod, smile, and calm everyone around him. And when things were going smoothly, he could grin and laugh. My life was richers for having known and worked with him.

Leslie Laufman, M.D.

Leslie Laufman - December 11, 2018 at 03:05 PM

RH

“ Pedro, Pete was the second fellow that I had, my partner for ten and my friend for life, he came to us recommended by Roberto Kusminsky who told me “ he is solid, he has it together “! . Boy was he right. Pete was an outstanding clinician, his surgical judgment was impeccable and his hands were as smooth as silk when performing surgery , his quiet demeanor was his best asset but in surgery he was aggressive, precise and to the point
One of the best
Heaven is a “better “ place today
Descansa en paz !

RENE F. HARTMANN - December 11, 2018 at 12:54 PM

AA

“ Dr. Pedro Aguilar Soberanis deja un gran vacío en nuestros corazones aunque se que desde donde este nos estará cuidando, mi tío Pedro cada vez que llegaba a visitarnos el mundo se detenía sólo por su presencia era una fiesta para sus hermanas Genny y Zulema sin duda se lo había ganado por el gran ser humano que era, un gran esposo, padre, hijo, hermano, tío, reciban mi condolencias toda la familia tía Aireen primos Angelica y Alan , Ben, Jenifer, y a mis sobrinos también Itan y Coby, mami Victoria, tía Zulema y tía Mercedes un fuerte abrazo los quiero



Alvar Avila - December 11, 2018 at 11:52 AM

EB

“ A phenomenal teacher / mentor and a wonderful friend. I am honored to have worked with such a gifted man. He leaves behind an unprecedented legacy of surgeons and staff that he has trained over the years. Always a giving man, his time, his talents....his memory will live on not only through his wonderful family but through all of us that he gave a piece of himself to over the years of service he gave as a renowned and beloved physician. He will be fondly remembered forever in our hearts.

Erica Bowen - December 11, 2018 at 11:46 AM

JR

“ I will never forget such a wonderful man who touched my life in so many ways in the 20 years I worked with him. Loved him dearly and will never forget the way he said my name.

JoAnn

JoAnn Rodehaver - December 11, 2018 at 10:38 AM

DS

“ Mamá Cely en tido momento esta con ustedes el amorr del mundo,,,,,recíbanlo



Dulce Sánchez - December 11, 2018 at 09:55 AM

DS

Mama Cely los quiere mucho y quisiera estar ahi con ustedes reciban todo su amor

Dulce Sánchez - December 11, 2018 at 09:58 AM

DS

“ *A toda la familia mis condolencias ,,,*



Dulce Sánchez - December 11, 2018 at 09:51 AM

MF

Maravilloso estar.con el creador.ntregar buenas cuentas.pedro descanse en paz.rezamos por ti y tu familia

Miguel medina y fam - December 11, 2018 at 11:45 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Dr. Pedro Juan Soberanis Aguilar.*



December 11, 2018 at 09:29 AM

TF

“ *The Melegrito's: David, Elma, and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. Pedro Juan Soberanis Aguilar.*



The Melegrito's: David, Elma, and Family - December 11, 2018 at 06:53 AM

AA

“ 80 files added to the album Celebration of Life



Angelica Aguilar - December 10, 2018 at 11:48 PM



Pedro Juan Aguilar Soberanis dejó una gran huella en nuestras familias Yucatecas , Sanchez Espadas, Sanchez Salas , un hombre de ejemplo, fe , perseverancia y fortaleza, nuestro admiración y respeto y amor hasta el cielo para Pedro Juan , nuestro amor Cariño para las familias Aguilar especialmente a su esposa Aireen, a sus hijos Alan Y Angelica, y a sus familias ; y a sus hermanas Zulema, Geny, y Mercedes los abrazamos y nos unimos a su dolor, los amamos y siempre estaremos para Ustedes , Descance en paz el Doctor Pedro Juan Aguilar Soberanis 🙏

Sandra Espadas - December 11, 2018 at 09:23 AM

PM

Dr. Aguilar was a very important person in my life until 6 years ago. He saved my husbands life back in 1993 and took care of him and gave him 20 more years of quality life. Such a wonderful person. When Dr. Paddy told me he was retiring I did not know he was also ill. You will be missed.Patty Manson wife of patient Farrell Manson

Paatty Manson - December 11, 2018 at 10:50 AM