



Samuel Joseph Bracken Jr.

August 3, 1938 - July 30, 2025

Samuel Joseph Bracken, Jr. passed away peacefully at home in Dublin, OH on Wednesday, July 30, 2025, surrounded by his family and beloved fur baby Angel, after a long illness. Born in 1938 in Clarksburg, WV, he would have been 87 years old on August 3. He graduated from St. Peter's High School in Fairmont, WV, Wheeling College and Georgetown Medical School.

Over his 50 years of practicing medicine in Wheeling, WV, he delivered more than 10,000 babies and was loved and respected for his kind and loving nature. For many patients, he delivered several generations of their family. Few people realized how deeply generous he was; through out the years, he quietly forgave the unpaid medical bills of patients who were struggling.

In addition to his love for practicing medicine, he was an avid lifetime gardener, loved skiing and travel, spending time with family & friends, but most of all he loved being with his grandchildren. He had a great sense of humor which remained evident throughout his illness.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 50 years, Joyce Zack Bracken, and his parents Samuel Joseph Bracken and Zola Hedrick Bracken of Fairmont, W.V.

He is survived by his three children, Susan (Anthony) Redder of Powell, Ohio, Sam (Melissa Ingram) Bracken, III of LaGrange, Ky and Tom Bracken (Karen

Sauder) of Wheeling, WV; Grandchildren Tommy (Kiarah Vinka) Bracken, Jr. of Wheeling, WV, Lillian and Conor Redder of Powell, Oh. He is also survived by his beloved sister Elizabeth Bracken Hiner, niece Christine (David) Harmon and daughter Brianna Harmon, as well as nephew Oliver (Colleen) Hiner and children Samuel and Madeline Hiner.

The family would like to thank his caregivers for their love, kindness & care for him. We are eternally grateful.

Family will receive friends 6-8 p.m., Tuesday August 5 at the Rutherford Funeral Home, 450 W. Olentangy St., Powell, OH 43065. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Wednesday, August 6 at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 10700 Liberty Rd., Powell, OH 43065. A luncheon will be served after the funeral. Burial will be at 1 p.m. Friday, August 8, at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Wheeling, WV.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Sisters of St. Joseph Health & Wellness Foundation, 137 Mt. St. Joseph Rd., Wheeling, WV 26003.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 5. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell
450 West Olentangy Street
Powell, OH 43065
(614) 792-1471
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

Mass of Christian Burial

AUG 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church
10700 Liberty Road
Powell, OH 43065
<http://www.stjoanofarcpowell.org/>

Burial

AUG 8. 1:00 PM.

Mt. Calvary Cemetery
Wheeling, WV

Tribute Wall

SM

“ Condolences to all the family in this time of mourning for your dear father, brother and friend. I knew Dr. Bracken and Joyce while we were at Misericordia Hospital in 1965-68. I was a student nurse and he was doing his residency. I also babysat for Susan, Sammy and Tommy. I was able to visit a few times in Wheeling when I was on home leave from Ghana where I was working as a Medical Mission Sister. Two of our Sr/Dr's also were friends with Sam and Joyce. It is heartwarming to read the reflections and know how much he meant for so many people. He certainly does rest in peace. With prayers, Sr. Margaret Moran, MMS.

Sr. Margaret Moran - August 16, 2025 at 09:28 PM

NH

“ Sam was my favorite friend for 10 years. I enjoyed the quality times we had together. He was such a sharp and insightful man! I admired his positive attitude and humor through all his health issues! I will never forget the impression he made to my life. Blessings to Susan, Tommy and Sam!!

Nancy J Hartman - August 10, 2025 at 09:22 AM

NJ

“ Nancy J. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Samuel Joseph Bracken Jr..

Nancy J. - August 10, 2025 at 09:15 AM

YP

“ Your Sherwin Williams team at Powell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Samuel Joseph Bracken Jr..

Your Sherwin Williams team at Powell - August 05, 2025 at 11:32 AM

YP

“ Your Sherwin Williams team at Powell purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Samuel Joseph Bracken Jr..



Your Sherwin Williams team at Powell - August 05, 2025 at 11:32 AM

BP

“ Brenda Schulz & Georgi ans Jenell Popov purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Samuel Joseph Bracken Jr..



Brenda Schulz & Georgi ans Jenell Popov - August 04, 2025 at 08:52 PM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Samuel Joseph Bracken Jr..



August 04, 2025 at 12:47 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Samuel Joseph Bracken Jr..

August 04, 2025 at 12:47 PM



“ Dave, Rose, Zach, Jackie and Stephen planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Samuel Joseph Bracken Jr..

Dave, Rose, Zach, Jackie and Stephen - August 04, 2025 at 11:30 AM



“ Dave, Rose, Zach, Jackie and Stephen purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Samuel Joseph Bracken Jr..



Dave, Rose, Zach, Jackie and Stephen - August 04, 2025 at 11:30 AM



“ Dear Susan, Sam, Tommy and family,
I have just learned of Sam's death. We were friends in the 70s and on in Wheeling and Deep Creek lake. I have many fond memories of times with you, your mom and your dad. I have not seen him since he moved to Columbus and I to Pittsburgh. My thoughts are with all of you....much love, Dot S.

Dorothy - August 04, 2025 at 10:21 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Samuel Joseph Bracken Jr..



August 04, 2025 at 07:39 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Samuel Joseph Bracken Jr..

August 04, 2025 at 07:39 AM



“ Sam meant a GREAT deal to me since we met in 1965. He was a fantastic mentor who demonstrated much medical knowledge, aptitude and surgical skills. He also related with all patients; treated every one with respect.

After my training, we remained close friends. My wife, Margie, kids, and I always looked forward to spending family vacations together in RI, West Virginia or “Camp Lot-a-Fun”.

The times and events we spent together are among my most treasured memories.

It is tough to describe the sadness that I feel after learning of my true friend’s passing.

Please accept my deepest condolences to his children Susie, Sam and Tom

Roger Raymond - August 03, 2025 at 06:39 PM

BM

“ Sam, I was going to send a happy birthday message to celebrate your birthday today. Heartbroken to hear this sad news.

May you be pain free and rest in peace

We have great memories of time spent together with my mom.

Prayers and strength to the family 🙏

Bindu Mehra - August 03, 2025 at 04:38 PM

VV

“ Dear Susan, Sam , Tommy and family

Our tears join with yours as we send condolences, love and prayers to you all, May the Lord give you His peace and comfort.

Sam was a wonderful friend for 35 years to us and family. He will be missed.

Valerie Vucish - August 03, 2025 at 10:45 AM

JG

“ My mother, Pat (Robinson) Felton, worked for Dr. Bracken for years. The office was a close knit family. He was so good to my mother when my sister was ill, making sure she was able to have the time off to help care for her. He delivered my only daughter and gave me his number at Deep Creek in case he wasn't on call and could get to the hospital to deliver my baby. He was so kind. My sincerest condolences to his family and friends.

Jody Robinson Geese

Jody Geese - August 02, 2025 at 08:16 PM

DL

“ Sam has been a good friend since the mid sixties when he was an intern and resident at Misericordia Hospital in Philadelphia and I was a student nurse who babysat for Susan and Sam when they were little ones. We have never lost touch over the years and I value our friendship so much. In recent years we would talk on the phone and enjoy reminiscing about the good old days. I always called him especially for his birthday but this year I think he must have sensed he would not be here for his birthday because he surprised me with a call on either July 21 or 22. We reminisced about the fun party my family had for my dad's 50th and Sam's 30th. I will truly miss our calls. My sympathy and much love to Susan, Sam, and Tommy especially and to all his family and friends.
Donna Lewis

Donna Lewis - August 02, 2025 at 05:36 PM

JP

“ Sam was my long time friend n doctor!!!!Hugs n prayers for peace for all family members!!

JoAnn Polanski - August 02, 2025 at 02:21 PM