Burton Rosan, Penn Dental Medicine

AUGUST 12, 2025



Burton Rosan

VOL 72 ISSUE 2 (HTTPS://ALMANAC.UPENN.EDU/VOLUME-72-NUMBER-2) DEATHS PRINT

Burton (Bob) Rosan, D'57, GD'62, an emeritus professor of microbiology in Penn Dental Medicine, died on March 31. He was 96.

Dr. Rosan obtained two degrees from Penn's School of Dental Medicine. While a graduate student, Dr. Rosan served as a research associate and an instructor in microbiology. In 1963, a year after he graduated, he joined the Dental School's tenure track faculty as an associate in microbiology. He advanced to assistant professor in 1965, to associate professor in 1967, and to full professor in 1975. Dr. Rosan served on Penn's University Council and several of its committees, and was appointed to the oral biology and medicine study section of the National Institutes of Health in 1976. He retired from Penn in 1996 and was awarded emeritus status. In 2007, he received the Penn Dental Medicine Alumni Award of Merit.

Dr. Rosan is survived by his children, Rhea Shapiro (Jerry), Felice Rosan (Joel Steckel), and Jonathan Rosan (Karen Bab); his grandchildren, Jaimie (Kyle), Ben, Phil, Sophie, Zach, Melissa (Garrett), Amanda (Tyler), and Spencer; and his grand-dogs, Teddy, Ozzie and Snacks.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Dr. Rosan's memory may be made to Sharsheret.org (http://Sharsheret.org), Kizzy's Place, or to a charity of the donor's choice (https://www.legacy.com/charity/memorial-charity-donations/? cobrand=inquirer).