



Dr. Mark Howard Wellman

July 11, 1962 - December 26, 2021

Dr. Mark Howard Wellman passed away while visiting his sister in Florida on Sunday, December 26th. Mark suffered a seizure followed by a cardiac arrest that took his precious life. He was born in Lima, Ohio on July 11, 1962. The son of Howard and Althea (Howell) Wellman. Mark received his Doctor of Philosophy from George Washington University.

Mark had worked as a professor at the University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business for over 30 years. He was hired to oversee the MBA program, later took a Clinical Professor role, was the Director of the Business, Society, and Economy program of the College Park Scholars, and was promoted to Assistant Dean of Alumni and Corporate Relations for the school. He created the management major and many other innovative and co-curricular programs and experiences. Mark received the University of Maryland Brit Kirwan award in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the university. He also received numerous awards for teaching; including the Allen J. Krowe Teaching Excellence award for his outstanding contribution to business education and the Outstanding Faculty Educator Award, which is presented by the Maryland Parents Association to honor his deep commitment to providing exemplary educational experiences for students.

Mark spent his Christmas breaks traveling the world with students. He had contacts all over the world and took more students on study abroad trips than

anyone else. Mark loved adventure; he had experienced everything from bungee jumping in New Zealand to ziplining over Dubai. Mark was a lifelong learner for his own personal growth as well as to enhance the learning experiences for his students. During the summer break, Mark continued serving others by managing the business his parents started in 1966, the Winona Lake and Campgrounds. He was constantly seeking the newest most exciting inflatables for the lake to make the summer unforgettable for the many children that frequented the lake during their summer break. Mark was kind, selfless, enthusiastic, and genuine with each person he met.

Mark is preceded in death by his father, Howard of Lima, OH. He is survived by his mother, Althea of Lima, OH, his sister, Winona (Gary) Axe of Auburndale, FL, nieces and nephews, Joshua (Chelsea) Axe, Rachel (Ronson) Dykstra, and Jordan Axe. Great-nieces and nephews, Charlotte Dykstra, Oliver Dykstra, and Arwyn Axe

Mark's visitation will be held on Friday, January 7th from 4 to 8 pm and the memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 8th at 1 pm at the Eley Funeral Home & Crematory, 1102 Lincoln Ave. (St. Rt. 501), Wapakoneta, Ohio. Burial is to follow in the Elm Grove Cemetery, St. Mary's. The family has asked for donations to be made in Mark's honor to the AdamGhat Ministries (www.adamghat.org) and the Samaritan's Purse (<https://www.samaritanspurs e.org>) in lieu of flowers. Condolences may be expressed at www.eleyfuneralandcrematory.com. A virtual memorial may also be visited at <https://padlet.com/MarylandSmith/5nljbtlosly6vq9>

Cemetery Details

Elm Grove Cemetery

631 Greenville Road
St. Marys, OH

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 7. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory
1102 Lincoln Ave.
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com
<http://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com>

Service

JAN 8. 1:00 PM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory
1102 Lincoln Ave.
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com
<http://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com>

Tribute Wall

SH

“ Without Mark, I wouldn't be who I am today. Since I entered his classroom at age 17 to the month of his death after I turned 30, he has been there for me, every year, one of the few constants in my constantly-moving life. No matter where we were in the world, we always found time to catch up, every year, without fail. I miss him dearly. He was the most humble mentor, never offering any advice or "life experiences", never being anything but a friend. I was always so humbled that Mark could see watch me grow up yet still see me as his equal, as a friend. Mark certainly left a "mark" on my life (get it?). He is truly missed.

It took me a long time to regain my bearings to write this. I hope it's better late than never and his family can read this knowing that he will always be remembered, even as time passes.

Shirley - August 31, 2022 at 02:31 AM

NY

“ My deepest condolences go out to Mark’s family. Mark was a very close friend of mine. I first met Mark in 2010 as a freshman student of his in the BSE program he led. I had the great privilege of working under him as his Teaching Assistant throughout my college experience. As his TA, I traveled the world with him on countless trips. He was legendary at planning fun and inspirational short term abroad programs. Our travels and work together formed an extremely strong bond between us. He had a profound impact of my life and career as he mentored me throughout college and beyond. He was a role model to me in more ways than I can think of. It’s difficult to think of a world without Mark. His goofy behavior and life advice are just two of many areas that I will sorely miss. My hope is to embrace the many facets of life that Dr. Wellman has taught me and continue on his legacy of positively impacting people’s lives. There’s no question that he made the world a better place for the lives that he touched.



Nelson Young - January 08, 2022 at 02:23 AM



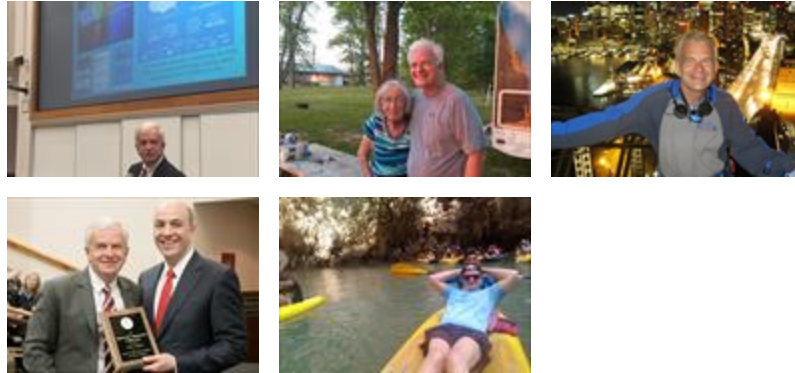
“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Mark Howard Wellman.



January 08, 2022 at 02:12 AM

CD

“ 9 files added to the album Memories Album



Claudia Donnelly - January 07, 2022 at 10:01 PM

ML

“ My sincere condolences to the Wellman family on Mark's sudden and unexpected passing. It's hard to imagine that such a genial, caring guy is no longer with us. I got to know Mark when I became Executive Director of College Park Scholars seven and a half years ago. His Business, Society and the Economy program is part of the Scholars community. Mark had little patience with the pesky administrative details of running a program, but he was great at creating extraordinary opportunities for his students to learn all over the world. He poured his heart and energy into that work, and I'm glad he did. Mark changed lives and helped students cultivate skills they'll need for success in their professions and their lives. The many tributes from BSE students are testament to the impact he had and the deep care he brought to the work. I'm grateful to have gotten to know him and for his years of service to BSE and Scholars. His legacy will endure.

Marilee Lindemann
Executive Director
College Park Scholars
University of Maryland

Marilee Lindemann - January 07, 2022 at 04:32 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Mark Howard Wellman.*



January 07, 2022 at 10:05 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Mark Howard Wellman.*



January 07, 2022 at 09:14 AM



“ *Mary Q, Alexa, Whit, Mar C, Lauren, Cath purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Dr. Mark Howard Wellman.*



Mary Q, Alexa, Whit, Mar C, Lauren, Cath - January 05, 2022 at 04:12 PM



“ *Mark has been a phenomenal professor, mentor and friend to me over the past decade. From teaching my first undergraduate class in BSE to working together at Smith to supporting over the years and all of our chats over cookies in the office Mark’s smile and loving energy will thoroughly be missed. He directly supported three decades of students in immeasurable ways. I will miss you so much Mark, Nima*

Nima Farshchi - January 05, 2022 at 04:09 PM



“ *The Toy Association extends sincere condolences to Mark's family as well as his University of Maryland family. He first brought students to Toy Fair New York in 2014. Mark and UMD were an inspiration for a more organized student event at Toy Fair in the years that followed. It was a real pleasure working with him this fall as his students conducted research for us. He will be truly missed. - Anne McConnell on behalf of The Toy Association.*

Anne McConnell - January 05, 2022 at 03:37 PM

TH

“ *My sincere condolences to the Wellman Family during this very difficult time.*

I first met Mark in 1982, when we lived on the same floor at Bowling Green State University. We enjoyed many fun times during those years including trips to Florida, Ohio State, Portage Quarry, Toledo Riverside Park, and Winona Lake.

While it had been many years since I had seen Mark, I'm sure that these memories were always with him as they'll continue to remain with me.

Tom Higginbotham

Tom Higginbotham - January 05, 2022 at 03:26 PM

OS

“ Dear Wellman family.

For the first time in years, I'm not looking forward to going back to the office after the Winter break. For the past 15 years, one of the first things I always did was to check in with Mark. Sure thing, I was greeted to his favorite line: "What's going on?" What made Mark special was that this catchphrase was truly genuine. He had a relentless curiosity and was very interested in what was going with you, with work, with education and life.

So many people have sent notes about their conversations with Mark and after reading all of them I can't believe how he made time to be a special friend to so many people. The outpouring of admiration for him is just unbelievable.

Please find some solace in the fact that he was the most dedicated educator I have ever met. Simply nobody dedicated so much of his time and heart into helping students see their potential.

He left a legacy that I hope we can build on in the years to come. Like many others, I miss my friend. What a terrible loss for you and so many others.

*Dr. Oliver Schlake
M&O Department
Robert H. Smith School of Business*

Oliver Schlake - January 05, 2022 at 02:07 PM

AO

“ To the Wellman family:



I am so upset to hear of Mark's passing. I am still in complete shock and disbelief. I had just seen Mark just a few short weeks ago and it was so nice to talk to him and catch up. I worked at the University of Maryland with Mark for about 25 years. Mark was the one who hired me all those years ago. I consider Mark not only a very dear friend but also an amazing co-worker. I will miss so much all our talks that we have had over the years. He was also so very encouraging to me in everything that I did. I know Mark took it very hard when his dad passed away in 2018. I lost my dad on Father's Day in 2019 and I know the pain he was going thru. Mark talked so often about his sister, mom and nieces and nephews. He often talked about Winona Lake and how much he really enjoyed being there as he said he always had such a great time. I can remember many years ago when Mark's mom and dad brought strawberries up from Florida to a group of us in our office at Smith. Those were the best strawberries I had ever had. I am going to miss Mark so much, but I know one day I will see him again. He will be missed by so many colleagues and students, and it is so amazing to see the impact that Mark has had on so many people. May God bless Mark's family and wrap his arms around his family and comfort them at this most difficult time. God bless you all.

*Amy Owens
Robert H Smith School of Business
University of Maryland*

Amy Owens - January 05, 2022 at 11:05 AM

RL

“ On behalf of my colleagues at FrontierView, we express our sincere condolences to the Wellman family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this most difficult time.

We/I had the good fortune to work closely and collaborate with Mark, Roy and their students over the past several years as a corporate partner. We were inspired by his creativity, collaborative and entrepreneurial spirit, and openness to ideas -- especially since we are a smaller company compared to some of the larger organizations he works with. In our view, the experiential learning programs and corporate relationships he was building for his students and the University are unique, impactful, critically important and will undoubtedly leave a lasting legacy. We will do our part to carry forward our partnership and the ideas he was excited about -- all in his honor.

We will greatly miss Mark.

Sincerely,

Richard Leggett, CEO, FrontierView on behalf of the entire global FrontierView organization

Richard Leggett - January 04, 2022 at 05:44 PM

CD

“Life is not lost by dying; life is lost minute by minute, day by dragging day, in all the thousand small uncaring ways.” Stephen Vincent Benet

Mark Wellman never had an uncaring day in his life. He enjoyed learning, enjoyed teaching, enjoyed being adventurous and he somehow managed to experience each of these things every day. As a professor at the University of Maryland, Mark wanted students to want to learn and he challenged them not to memorize his lessons, but to reflect on why they were learning. He inspired thousands of young people to open doors for themselves by showing them how to be curious, determined, compassionate and good. For the past 14 years that I worked with Mark, I always marveled at the genuine and lasting connections he made in College Park and around the world and I always considered myself lucky to call him my friend. Mark's short life was very meaningful.
-- Claudia Donnelly

[previously posted on UMD tribute site: <https://padlet.com/MarylandSmith/5nljbtlosly6vq9>]



C Donnelly - January 04, 2022 at 05:07 PM

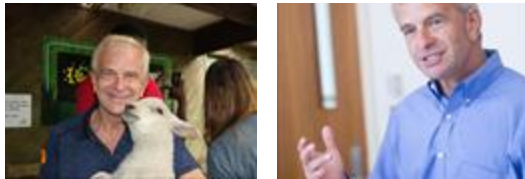
CS

“ It's hard to write this, Mark was a cherished friend. I met Mark in 1990 when I was hired by the Management Department as an assistant professor and he was heading up our MBA program. I had the good fortune of getting to know him better in the mid-2000s when our offices ended up next door to each other. He was so well-loved that he always had a line of students waiting outside his office door. He shared helpful insights and advice when I pursued my current position in the Office of Undergraduate Studies, and we kept in touch since his work with College Park Scholars intersected with that role. In our last couple phone conversations (less than a month ago), we reminisced about our early days of working together, as he'd been in touch with some of our former MBA students. Given the length of our friendship, this loss is a deep one for me as it is for so many others. I hope there's some solace in knowing how greatly he was loved and admired by so many.

Cindy Stevens - January 04, 2022 at 03:47 PM

JM

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Jeff Miller - January 04, 2022 at 03:36 PM

JM

“From the very first time we met, Mark was an incredibly effusive and positive supporter of my work at the Smith School. As our friendship grew over the many years that we worked closely together, he became like a family member... a brother... to me. That level of support and connection not only never faltered, it became stronger with time. Mark was a rock I could depend on in good times and bad. That love and respect went both ways. I was always in awe of Mark’s effortless ability to positively connect with students, company executives, and just plain folk from anywhere in the world.

Mark loved to travel with students and to show them the world beyond the confines of their upbringing. His student trips to the four corners of the globe are legendary. Over the years, I have retold many of his tales to wide eyed listeners who were amazed that any professor would go to such lengths (and risks!) to provide immersive educational and life experiences for their students. He also channeled that joy into the classroom and the College Park Scholars program, where he developed some of the most popular classes taught at the Smith School. His dedication to education and mentoring others changed so many lives for the better. I consider myself one of those very lucky people. I’m certain many others reading this will feel the same way.

Mark’s passions weren’t just based in the classroom. He was also the hardest working man I knew when not teaching at Smith. Each summer he put on a name tag and stepped into the role of general manager of his family’s business: a beloved lake based water park in a small midwestern community. Mark worked long hours each summer to give thousands of people and families an inexpensive and fun place to spend summer vacation time. As we’d talk all through the summer, I could often hear children’s happy laughs and shouts in the background. I’m sure that’s what helped motivate him to keep at it summer after summer.

As I try and contemplate a world without my buddy, I am fortified by all the positive impacts he had on my life and the lives of so many

others. Mark challenged me and guided me. His attitude towards education gave me greater focus. His pre class drop-ins to shake my hand, say hello, and flash his wonderfully goofy grin will be deeply and forever missed. But what I will miss most is my brother-in-arms... who believed, like me, that being an educator is one of the best jobs in the world. He used all his skills, not to make a corporate fortune (which he certainly could have), but to make the people he met and taught better and stronger. I'll work to carry on that legacy and channel his positive energy into continuing to try to make a difference for students... for the world. I hope those reading this will do the same. Mark would have it no other way.

Godspeed my brother. You made this world a better place and you will be deeply missed by so many. It's a legacy to be proud of as you travel away from us one last time... west of where the sun sets.

- Jeff Miller

[previously posted on UMD tribute site: <https://padlet.com/Maryland-Smith/5nljbtlosly6vq9>]

Jeff Miller - January 04, 2022 at 03:32 PM