Ronald Herberman, M.D.

Ronald Herberman, M.D., an AACR member since 1969, died on June 2 at the age of 72. Herberman was the founding director of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI) and a former member of the AACR Board of Directors. He was the chief medical officer and senior vice president of research and development at TNI BioTech Inc. in Potomac, Md., at the time of his death.

Herberman led research in tumor immunology at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) before arriving in Pittsburgh in 1985. UPCI became an NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center and an internationally recognized research institution under Herberman’s leadership. He was also appointed the first Hillman Professor of Oncology at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He joined TNI BioTech in 2012.

Herberman was an active AACR member. In addition to his service on the board of directors, he served as associate editor of Cancer Research, member of the Cancer Prevention Research editorial board, member of the Science Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee and the Pennsylvania State Legislative Committee. He also served as a mentor in the Scientist↔Survivor Program.

In honor of his numerous achievements throughout his career, Herberman was recognized with the Governor of Pennsylvania’s Award for Excellence in Science and Medicine, the Lifetime Science Award from the Institute for Advanced Studies in Immunology and Aging, and the Solomon A. Berson Medical Alumni Achievement Award in Clinical Sciences from his alma mater, New York University. From 1981 to 1990, Herberman was one of the 100 most-cited research authors. In 2008, he issued one of the first advisory warnings over possible long-term risks of cell phone use caused by electromagnetic radiation exposure.

He is survived by his wife, Harriet, two children and three grandchildren.