

UT Southwestern Medical Center

Passing of Ron Anderson, M.D.

September 12, 2014

To the UT Southwestern Community:

It is with sadness that I write to inform you that Dr. Ron Anderson, a longstanding member of our faculty who served for nearly three decades as President and Chief Executive Officer of Parkland Health and Hospital System, died last night from cancer.

Dr. Anderson spent his entire career at Parkland and UT Southwestern, arriving as an Intern in Internal Medicine in 1973. He served as Chief Resident from 1975-76, and at the conclusion of his training, he became a member of the UT Southwestern faculty and an attending physician at Parkland. He served as Medical Director of Parkland's Emergency Room from 1980-82. In 1982, at the age of 35, he was named President and CEO, a position he held for the next 29 years. Even after he stepped down from his leadership position at Parkland, he remained on our faculty as a Professor of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Anderson was not only a leader here in Dallas, he also was a highly respected national authority on public health issues. He was active locally and nationally in championing the needs of the underserved and in promoting innovative programs to address unmet needs. His commitment and achievements were recognized by numerous awards. Perhaps his most gratifying accomplishment was the successful bond campaign in Dallas that secured public financing for the new Parkland hospital, due to open in May 2015.

Throughout his years of service as both a member of our faculty and leader of Parkland, Dr. Anderson's dedication to the needs of the most vulnerable of our community was unwavering. His example should inspire generations of providers to care for and about all those in our society. Through his stewardship of Parkland, in partnership with the physicians of UT Southwestern, legions have received care and comfort not available to them otherwise.

I know that I speak for all on the UT Southwestern Medical Center campus in extending our deepest sympathies to his family, friends, and colleagues.

Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D.

President, UT Southwestern Medical Center