

In Memoriam: Eugene Braunwald (1929–2026)

Eugene Braunwald, the legendary cardiologist, passed away 22nd of April, 2026. He was one of the most influential figures in the history of cardiovascular medicine. He was the father of modern cardiology. His studies on hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, TIMI studies, and the great book 'Braunwald's Heart Disease' will be always remembered. He also authored more than 1.000 peer-reviewed publications, becoming one of the most highly cited cardiologists in history. He will always be missed. The AJC extends its deepest condolences to Professor Braunwald's family and loved ones.

We wish him to rest in peace.

Prof. Dr. Çetin Erol

Editor-in-Chief

In Memoriam: Passing of a Founding Figure in Modern Cardiology

Prof. Eugene Braunwald, who is considered to be the father of modern cardiology, has passed away at the age of 96. His work shaped the understanding of heart disease over seven decades. We all grew up reading his textbook and following his publications. His mind was brilliant till the last day and he was writing for the Braunwald's Corner in the European Heart Journal. He was among the first to describe the pathophysiology of heart failure and coronary artery disease in rigorous scientific terms, helping to establish the foundation for modern cardiology. He contributed to many different aspects of cardiology from heart failure to acute coronary syndromes to prevention. His mantra was "you can never have a too low LDL-C" and he practiced what he preached for himself.

I first met him in my first year of fellowship at Baylor where he came to give grand rounds and met with fellows after his talk. I was so much in awe of him that I could not ask the million questions I had related to his work. I later on had the chance to connect with him several times during congresses. It was one of the greatest honors in my life to write a chapter for his textbook. Prof. Braunwald was known for his intellectual rigor, mentorship, and commitment to patient care. He believed deeply in the integration of research and clinical practice, insisting that advances in the laboratory must translate into better outcomes at the bedside. We have lost a great scientist, a great mentor and a brilliant mind but his legacy will live with all his scientific contributions which will continue to resonate in every modern treatment for heart disease, ensuring that his impact will endure for generations.

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