

DR. SAMUEL RICHARD PURSGLOVE, JR.



Dr. Samuel Richard Pursglove, Jr., 79, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, passed away on December 30, 2023. He was born on March 15, 1944, in Morgantown, WV, to the late Samuel Sr. and Hattie Pursglove. Samuel is survived by his loving wife, Sandra; and their three daughters, Samantha, Melanie, and Alexandra. He was a proud grandfather to Joseph, Thomas, and Benjamin (sons, of Samantha and husband,

Robert), Samuel (son of Melanie and husband, Luke), and Stella (daughter of Alexandra and husband, Adam). He is also survived by two of his four siblings, Susan Bartlett, and Joseph Pursglove; being preceded in death by beloved sisters, Hattie Jo Mullins and Sarah Boyer.

Samuel had an impressive educational background. He earned a BS in Pre-Medicine and an MS in Zoology from West Virginia University. He went on to obtain his Ph.D. in Veterinary Parasitology and Wildlife Disease from the University of Georgia, where he also served as the leader of the Technical Laboratory of the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study until 1977. During his tenure there, he also authored 26 scientific publications and made a significant contribution to the field by discovering a new species of parasite, scientifically named *Apteragia pursglovei* in his honor.

Throughout his career, Samuel made a lasting impact on the conservation of forest wildlife. From 1977 to 2001, he served as the Executive Director of the Ruffed Grouse Society, a national organization dedicated to improving habitats for North American forest wildlife. His dedication and expertise were instrumental in the society's expansion and fundraising efforts over his 25-year tenure. After retiring from the RGS in 2001, Samuel founded his own company, Visionary Marketing, where he served as its sole proprietor until his passing.

Samuel was an expert game bird hunter and hunting dog trainer. He was also an avid fisherman, golfer, and sports fan, particularly of the Pittsburgh Steelers. He had a special bond with his brother Joe; they enjoyed playing fantasy football together in numerous leagues during his lifetime.

A ceremony to celebrate Samuel's life will be held at 6:30 PM on Friday, January 5, 2024, at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church on Beaver Grade Road in Moon Township, PA. His presence will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. The family politely requests no flowers be sent.

Arrangements entrusted to **R. D. COPELAND, LTD.**

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb