

Obituary



PAUL YU LIU, MD, passed away on January 26, 2026.

He was a world-renowned plastic surgeon who pioneered research in wound healing, and a revered educator.

Dr. Liu held prestigious leadership positions, including Chief of Plastic Surgery at Brown University Health, Chief of Surgery at Roger Williams Medical Center, and Professor of Surgery at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. He was internationally recognized for his clinical expertise and innovations in the treatment of complex wounds and diabetic limb salvage, integrating insights from mathematics, immunology, genetics, and surgery.

Dr. Liu earned his MD from Harvard Medical School, then completed his internship, residency, and research fellowship at Harvard's Brigham and Women's Hospital, where he served as senior and chief resident in plastic surgery. His academic and professional accomplishments were myriad, including an MA *ad eundem* from Brown University, the Louis T. Benezet Award from Colorado College, the Outstanding Mentor in Plastic Surgery Award, the Gordon Fellowship at Lahey Clinic, and

the Compassionate Doctor Award. He is remembered by colleagues and students for his humility, generosity, and stalwart commitment to nurturing the next generation of surgeons and researchers.

Dr. Liu served as president of the Wound Healing Society, program co-chair for its annual meetings, and director of the Functional Diabetic Limb Salvage and Wound Healing Foundation Conference. He also organized the Thomas K. Hunt Lecture Series, fostering collaboration and innovation across the field.

In the laboratory, Dr. Liu focused on wound healing, exploring ways to optimize surgical repair by developing biologicals that could improve on the body's natural healing. He established a biotech company, PAX Therapeutics, with his partner Dr. Xiaotian Wang.

He leaves behind his wife of 37 years, Sally Anne Lund, MD, and his children, Christian Liu, JD, of Boston, MA, and Meredith Liu, MFA, of Falls Church, VA; sisters Ingrid Lin, MD, (Henry Lin, MD), and Margaret Liu, MD, (Robert Johnson, MD, PhD), of Palos Verdes Estates and Lafayette, CA, respectively.

Those seeking to make contributions in Dr. Liu's memory can donate in his name to the Wound Healing Foundation or to the Warwick Symphony Orchestra. ❖