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NOTABLE DEATHS

Kevin Towers (1961 – 2018), former Padres, Diamondbacks GM



AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez

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LED THE PADRES TO THE WORLD SERIES IN 1998

By: Legacy Staff 4 days ago

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Kevin Towers, whose 14-year tenure as general manager led the Padres to the 1998 World Series, has died from complications of cancer. He was 56.

Friend and former agent Barry Axelrod said Towers died Tuesday at a

Towers was diagnosed with a rare form of thyroid cancer a little more

Axelrod said Towers was admitted to a hospital with fluid on his lungs and would be able to go home Tuesday.

As he spoke last week about being elected to the Hall of Fame, former manager mentioned Towers' influence on his career.

Towers also was general manager of the Arizona Diamondbacks for four years, leading a 29-game turnaround from their last-place finish the previous year.

"We lost an important member of our family and someone I personally respected," Towers said in a statement. "He was one of the biggest personalities the game has ever seen. He got enough of baseball, and baseball could not get enough of our KT. I miss him, his family and everyone who knew him."

Towers was born in Medford, Oregon, was a first-round draft pick and injuries ended his playing career in 1988. He served as a scout and pitcher for the Padres from 1993 to 1995 and was named Padres general manager in 1995.

Under Towers, the Diamondbacks signed Paul Goldschmidt to what became a record contract and drafted current bullpen ace Archie Bradley.

"KT was the epitome of a good baseball man who played a significant role in the franchise's success. The franchise will never be forgotten," Diamondbacks managing partner Ken Kendrick said. "I knew he would, and I will always remember him for his positive outlook on life."

We invite you to share condolences for Kevin Towers in his [Guest Book](#).

BERNIE WILSON, AP Sports Writer

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