



## CHUCK WIELGUS

*USA Swimming Executive Director*

*Inducted October 24, 2017*

Charles "Chuck" Wielgus, who served USA Swimming as Executive Director for nearly 20 years, passed away on April 23, 2017. He courageously battled cancer for more than a decade while continuing to steer USA Swimming to record growth.

Wielgus served as Executive Director of USA Swimming since 1997 and as CEO of the USA Swimming Foundation since its inception in 2004. He was the longest-tenured chief executive of an Olympic national governing body at the time of his death. During his tenure, Wielgus led USA Swimming through an extended period of growth with memberships surpassing 400,000 while organizational revenues and net worth more than doubled.



His achievements included creation of Splash Magazine, development of strong corporate and television partnerships, creation of Duel in the Pool, the Golden Goggle Awards, the Arena Pro Swim Series and re-positioning the U.S. Olympic Trials. He also spearheaded the USA Swimming Foundation's Make a Splash initiative to teach every child in America to swim. Under his leadership, the U.S. Olympic Swim Team

won an average of more than 31 medals in each of the last five Olympic Games, including 33 medals at the Rio Games.

Wielgus' distinguished career included a 2016 National Honorary Doctorate from the United States Sports Academy. He also had a passion for writing and co-authored three books.