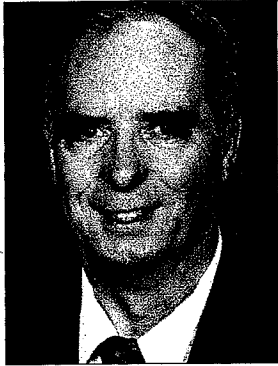


Michael Murtagh 1943–2001

Chair of Brookhaven's physics department, Michael Murtagh, a senior physicist whose tenure at the laboratory extended over 34 years, died on 12 July at the age of 57. Born in Lurgan, Armagh, Northern Ireland, he obtained a BSc at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, and an MSc at University College Dublin. He was a fellow at Dublin's Institute for Advanced Studies before moving to the US, where he earned his PhD at Harvard in 1974.

Murtagh went to Brookhaven in 1970 as a guest junior research associate. In 1973 he joined the physics department as a research associate. He was named assistant physicist



Michael Murtagh
1943–2001

in 1975, associate physicist in 1977 and physicist in 1979, receiving tenure in 1985.

He worked on neutrino physics using bubble chambers, from 1978 to 1986 being involved in Experiment 734 at the Alternate Gradient Synchrotron, which made precision measurements of neutrino elastic scattering from electrons and protons, and searching for neutrino oscillations.

From 1991 to 1993, Michael Murtagh served as Physics Department Associate Chair, becoming Deputy Chair in 1993. In 1998 he was named Physics Chair. He was elected a fellow of the American Physical Society in 1996.