

# Obituaries

We welcome original tributes of less than 700 words; we may edit them for clarity and length. Obituaries may be emailed to [journal@doctorsofbc.ca](mailto:journal@doctorsofbc.ca). Include birth and death dates, full name and name deceased was best known by, key hospital and professional affiliations, relevant biographical data, and a high-resolution head-and-shoulders photo.



**Dr Avi Ostry**  
1958–2023

Dr Avrum Jay (Avi) Ostry was born in Flin Flon, Manitoba, on 4 March 1958, to George and Anne (Lev) Ostry, and later joined by two brothers, Mark and David.

In July 2021, Avi was diagnosed with multiple myeloma. As a pathologist, he was well aware of the implications of his disease. He was a pragmatist and faced his disease with courage and forthrightness.

Avi studied marine biology and medicine at UBC (1985) and achieved a post-graduate degree in pediatric pathology at BC Women's and Children's Hospital. He did further training in cardiac pathology (Mayo Clinic) and breast pathology. He practised in Sydney and Halifax, NS, and finally as an anatomic pathologist at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver. Avi was also an associate professor in pathology and laboratory medicine at UBC and was involved in medical school admissions at UBC and

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada examinations in Ottawa. He was also director of medical laboratory services for Yukon and parts of Northern BC.

Avi died at home in Sechelt, a place he loved, with his wife Fran at his side. He will be missed by Fran; daughters Leah (Peter) and Neshama ("Nikki"); grandchildren Rebecca, Blake, and Isla; and the families of his brothers Mark (Margot and Neve) and David (Lesley, Julia, and Sarah). His love ripples out to extended family members, cherished friends, and colleagues. We remember Avi for his humor, kindness, intelligence, loyalty, and philanthropy. Avi was a force in our lives. We deeply love and miss him. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Myeloma Canada at <https://myelomacanada.ca>.

—**Fran Ostry**  
**Vancouver**

## Recently deceased physicians

The following Doctors of BC members died between June 2022 and May 2023. Thank you to their families for sharing this information with the Membership Department. If you knew any of the deceased, please consider submitting an obituary for the *BCMJ* to [journal@doctorsofbc.ca](mailto:journal@doctorsofbc.ca).

**Dr Daniel Walter Froese**  
28 November 1926–25 December 2022  
Obituary: <https://vancouver.sunandprovince.remembering.ca/obituary/daniel-froese-1086997273>

**Dr William Beresford Gough Gubbins**  
17 June 1946–2 April 2023

**Dr Andrzej (Andrew) Tadeusz Jakubowski**  
25 April 1954–27 January 2023

Obituary: [www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/west-vancouver-bc/andrzej-jakubowski-11144593](http://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/west-vancouver-bc/andrzej-jakubowski-11144593)

**Dr Lukas Cornelius Klopfer**  
1 May 1956–1 May 2023

**Dr Henry Frank Mizgala**  
28 November 1932–11 December 2022  
Obituary: <https://vancouver.sunandprovince.remembering.ca/obituary/henry-mizgala-md-frcpc-1086983826>

**Dr Grahame Walter Karl Thorkelson**  
28 December 1929–24 June 2022  
Obituary: [www.legacy.com/ca/obituaries/okanaganvalley/name/grahame-thorkelson-obituary?id=39988990](http://www.legacy.com/ca/obituaries/okanaganvalley/name/grahame-thorkelson-obituary?id=39988990)

**Dr Paul Waraich**  
24 August 1971–3 March 2023  
Obituary: <https://necrocanada.com/obituaries-2023/paul-s-waraich-md-friday-march-3rd-2023/>