# in memoriam

#### Dr John Chacko 1934-2006

John Chacko, the middle of three children, was born in Lahore, India (now Pakistan) to an American-physician mother and an Indian-professor father. On his mother's side, he could trace his roots back to the pastor of the Mayflower and on his father's side, to the original Christians in south India, who converted from Hinduism to Christianity at the time of the disciple

As a child, he attended Woodstock. an American boarding school in the foothills of the Himalayas. He took his undergraduate degree in chemistry at the University of Redlands in California and his medical degree at Harvard. He did his internship at Toronto General, where he met his wife, Jean, and his residency at Kingston General. He completed his surgical fellowship in Regina and finally settled down to private practice in Kamloops. His daughter, Sara, was born in Toronto; twin daughters, Kate and Jane, in Kingston; daughter, Leah, in Regina; and son, Andrew, in Kamloops.

In addition to his medical practice and serving as president of the BC Surgical Society, Dr Chacko was also involved in the community and was president of the Kamloops Rotary Club and the Masonic Lodge. Most recently, he was appointed commissioner of the CPP Kamloops Region by the governor general of Canada and served in this position until his death on 29 May 2006.

His pastimes included fishing, golfing, and spending time with his four grandchildren. He was described by colleagues and friends alike as a humble and truly gentle man who was kind, caring, and generous to all.

> -Jane Chacko **Kuwait**

#### Dr Mary (Kay) Garner 1913 – 2005

Dr Kay Garner died peacefully at her home in Gillies Bay on Texada Island in the company of her family.

She graduated with a degree in medicine from the University of Manitoba in 1942 and interned at Vancouver General Hospital, then practised in Vancouver until 1969. Kay was renowned for her expertise in obstetrics and in fact delivered me 60 years ago. She became my inspiration to enter into a career in medicine.

In 1969, Kay moved to Texada Island and continued to practise at the Texada Medical Clinic until 1988. Her practice was varied and busy as she was the only physician on Texada Island. It entailed 24-hour call and she never failed to respond to night and weekend emergencies. The only saving grace was that she didn't have to practise obstetrics.

Dr Garner was one of the groundbreaking female GP/obstetricians in Vancouver and became a pillar of the community on Texada Island when she moved there, participating in many activities. She was instrumental in establishing one of the regional parks on Texada Island (Shelter Point Park) -a stunning spit of sandy beach adjoining a rugged island overlooking

Georgia Strait and Vancouver Island. This will be a fitting legacy to her hard work and excellent care over her 45 years of medical practice.

Kay was predeceased by her husband, Cecil, in 1979, and is survived by her son, Bernard (Allison), and daughter, Francis.

> —W.H. Barclay, MD **Powell River**

### Dr James Hector Moir 1913 – 2006

Hector passed away peacefully and with quiet dignity in March with his loving extended family at his side.

At the age of 14, while in his first year of studies at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Hector decided that he wanted to change from the general arts program to medicine to study to become a doctor. Discussions with the dean of medicine led to his acceptance into the program just as he turned 15 years of age-provided that he pick up all the information of the first term, while keeping up with the ongoing lectures for the balance of the year. He was also to rank in the top half of his class. He had to study all the science courses, which he had never done before, as well as learn Latin and German. He finished the first year of medical studies in the top 10% of his

## WANTED: GOOD GUYS

The BCMJ's Good Guys column is a biographical feature of a living BC physician (or physician who practised in BC for a significant time period). This column is intended to celebrate the achievements of our colleagues while they're still around to appreciate it. It's a place to talk about the great work and diverse interests of our friends and colleagues.

Profiles should be fewer than 2000 words, and photos are welcomed. Our Guidelines for Authors are available at www.bcma.org, or call 604 638-2815 for a copy or for more information.