

no doubt as to the outcome.

The newlyweds immigrated to Estevan, Saskatchewan, in 1939. During the Second World War, he served as a surgical specialist and was in charge of surgery at the Dundurn Military Hospital, where he held the rank of acting major. The couple and their two young children, Peter and Michele, moved to Victoria in 1949, where he became chief of surgery at the Jubilee Hospital, and president of the BC Surgical Society. In his spare time, he mastered chess (gaining a draw from the world-renowned Rashefsky), tennis, poker, ping pong, duplicate bridge, photography, and painting.

Notwithstanding an earlier request from Tommy Douglas to become involved in the CCF vision of socialized medicine, Simon accepted a different challenge in 1963: to be one of the 13 original doctors of the Algoma Group Health Centre in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario—referred to by the Honourable Roy Romanow in recent years as one of Canada’s best-kept secrets, a model for medical care. Simon was 50 years old when he made the move, and not only held his own (and that of the AGHC) during opposition from the city’s medical establishment to this “union clinic,” but also saw many of the downtown doctors eventually move to the clinic. During this time, he also started some of the first peripheral vascular surgery in the Soo. Simon became a life master at bridge (as did his beloved Maureen), played Noah on stage, and cross-country skied. He retired in 1986, having practised as a general surgeon for over half a century, with yet another honor: the John Barker Award presented to those who have contributed to the development of the Group Health Centre (GHC).

He and ever-beautiful Maureen moved to Victoria in 1988. After recovering from an agonizing year suffering with metabolic neuropathy, Simon continued his lifelong exploration of new avenues and new ideas, this time publishing four books in succession,

including *Reducing the Risks of Surgery*, and *Informed Consent to Surgery*.

Simon’s passing was peaceful, as was his last year spent in the gracious, respectful, and caring environment at Hart House, surrounded by the books, art, and music which filled the corners of his enormously full life, one in which he not only healed his patients, but consistently shared his breadth of knowledge to improve the lives of others. Few who encountered Simon will ever forget him.

—Michele Matthews
(nee Marinker)
Vancouver

Dr Annette Elisabeth Hacking 1958–2007

We are honored and privileged to write a memorial for Annette Hacking at the request of her family. Annette died quietly and with great dignity at the Palliative Care Unit of St. Paul’s Hospital, Vancouver, after a long and courageous fight with cancer, and leaves behind a loving family and many colleagues, friends, and patients who grieve her passing. She lived her life with gusto and a remarkable enthusiasm to the very end.

Annette’s path to psychiatry was circuitous—after graduating UBC Medicine-1985, and interning at Dalhousie, she did two years in pathology before deciding that talking to live people was more her forte. Annette became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (psychiatry) in 1992 after completing her psychiatry residency at UBC. In a logic that was uniquely hers, Annette always saw this transition as natural and seamless.

Annette’s professionalism, commitment, and hard work were accompanied by steadfast, unvarying patience, compassion, and good humor. Her resilient, positive outlook was famous (if not at times notorious!). Highly respected by colleagues and patients at


Vancouver’s Mount Pleasant/Midtown Mental Health, she balanced her public service with private practice, where she delivered care to those with serious psychological illnesses.

Annette had a remarkably rich life outside medicine. She was passionate about the underwater world. Along with her dive-buddy family she traveled to many sites local and distant, and was fond of describing herself as equally and at times preferably a citizen of the submarine world. This tiny, petite woman blithely swam with manta rays and sharks in settings that would daunt most of us. She was a qualified dive master and loved to teach; so reflective of her generosity.

Annette’s creativity was reflected in her home: marine and submarine themes abounded—by her hand and others—trompe d’oeil of beaches with sand and shells; a hand-sculpted mermaid; stained glass creations; beachcombing finds and maritime-themed chatchkas complemented an ever-growing collection of sophisticated bronzes, something she described as an entirely justifiable if not wonton luxury. It all worked so well together—precisely managed with an eye to detail more typical of a marine architect (something her friends often felt she aspired to).

Annette led a unique life, famously independent, self-directed and strong-willed, balanced by her abiding optimism, generosity, and great good humour. She was an admirable model, has left an indelible impression, and is greatly missed.

—Michael Cook, MD
—Elisabeth Zoffmann, MD
Vancouver



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