

Dr Ian Duncan Findlay 1923–2010

Ian Findlay was born 2 December 1923 in Cullen, Scotland. He studied medicine at Aberdeen University and graduated MBChB in 1946. After service in the RAF Medical Branch, which included stints in Ceylon and the Aden Protectorate, he came to Canada.

During his first hospital internship in Newfoundland, he caused some consternation by wearing his kilt on ward rounds. His long white coat obscured the kilt and it appeared that he had forgotten his trousers!

He moved west to Smithers, BC, where he met the love of his life, Annie, a French-born nurse. They went together to her home in the south of France. With his charm, determination, and tact they married and returned to Canada with his still being, and Annie yet to become, a member of the Church of Scotland. They decided, to quote Ian, “to be a wee bit daft” and go to Africa, to Nyasaland, to spend 2 years in a missionary hospital.

In 1961 they returned to Canada where Ian studied and obtained certification in public health. With this in hand and a growing young family, which ultimately included two girls and two boys, they moved to Kamloops. Ian was a popular and competent medical officer of health for Kamloops and district during the years 1962 to 1970. He kept us up-to-date with short pithy radio talks every Monday morning on current health problems.

However Ian was a man of many parts. He decided to return to general practice and joined the Irving Clinic in Kamloops in 1971. He chose to return to institutional medicine in 1978 when he joined the WCB again in Kamloops.

Ian was an excellent communicator. He attended all our medical staff

meetings, and when asked to speak, he would say “I have three points.” Being of small stature he would then stand on his chair to ensure that all of us got the message.

He was a keen outdoorsman. He frequently took his family on camping expeditions into the lakes and mountains. He loved hiking, canoeing, and cross-country skiing.

He was a dedicated conservationist and played a key role in the formation of the Kenna Cartwright Park on Mount Dufferin on the southwest border of Kamloops. The city council recognized his great contribution by erecting a memorial cairn with plaque at the lookout on his favorite trail. Ian was a most kind man. What I noted especially about him was that he made time for everyone.

—**William J. McLaren, MD
Kamloops**

Dr Andrew Erroll Gillespie 1925–2010

After almost 86 fully lived, wonderful years, Andrew passed away peacefully in Victoria on 9 November 2010, with the loving support of his family and friends, near and far.

Andrew, a remarkably talented man with an adventurous spirit, was born in Victoria, BC, in 1925, son of Erroll and Catharine Gillespie (née Oliver). Andrew attended St. Michael's School and Brentwood College, with post-secondary education at UBC and McGill University (receiving a BSc in 1947 and his MD in 1948). He did further studies in the Department of Pediatrics at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He was an outstanding athlete, achieving gold-medal performances at many track meets, including the Canadian Open Track and Field Championships.

He returned to his hometown of Victoria to practise pediatric medicine and consulting. He began his own

practice in 1952. He was chief of the Department of Pediatrics at St. Joseph's Hospital for 15 years. His legacy included leadership in fighting a major polio epidemic and introducing prenatal screening for inborn errors of metabolism to 95% of all newborn infants at St. Joseph's Hospital.

Voluntary activities included serving as the BC representative to the American Board of Pediatrics for 5 years (1975–1980), teaching interns and residents, and participating in bringing many advances in pediatrics to Greater Victoria. Andrew was honored with life membership in the American College of Pediatrics.

His leisure time was often spent on international travel with his beloved Betty, visiting many parts of all continents except for Antarctica. When he retired from active pediatric consulting in 1982, his focus shifted to building two of his residences and developing his gardens, supported in the latter endeavor by his loyal cement mixer.

Predeceased by his wife, Betty (in 2007), his brother, Ian (RCAF, killed in action in 1943 at age 20), and his sister, Catriona; survived by his brother, Hon. Alastair Gillespie and his children, Ian Gillespie, Dawn Loucks, Gail Pettinger, and Bruce Gillespie. Andrew will be greatly missed. He was cherished by all of his family, including 12 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, and by colleagues and friends throughout the world. Andrew was a devoted husband, a highly esteemed pediatrician, and a very well-educated and traveled individual who maintained his interest in learning well past retirement.

—**Bruce Gillespie
—Ian Gillespie, MD
Victoria**

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Dr Thomas Henry Christopher Lewis 1923–2010

Dr Christopher Lewis passed away on 9 September. He is survived by Helga, his wife of 52 years, their four children, and seven grandchildren. Their younger daughter, Andrea, is a family physician in Sidney, BC.

Chris was born in London, England, where his father, Sir Thomas Lewis, was a well-known researcher and teacher in the early studies of cardiac disease. Sir Thomas spent many years studying cardiograms, including many studies that he did on the young Chris Lewis while learning the meaning of their appearance.

During Chris's youth, the Lewis family lived in a rural area near London where both parents took delight in teaching their family about all manner of natural things, especially fish, birds, and plants.

When he was still young, Chris displayed a natural artistic talent, especially doing pencil sketches, particularly sketches of humans. This was encouraged. As he was maturing, there was some thought that he might decide to follow this talent professionally, but Chris independently decided to study medicine.

He began his medical studies at Oxford where he also continued his sketching and water colors. After completing his first MB, he did his clinical studies at the University College Hospital in London. When he obtained his British qualifications, he completed his mandatory army service in Austria, going first to Karlsruhe and then to Vienna. On deciding to come to Canada, he obtained positions to complete his specialty training at Sunnybrook Hospital, then Toronto Western Hospital, and finally the chief residency at Vancouver General Hospital (VGH).

Chris was then appointed to the staff in the Department of Medicine at

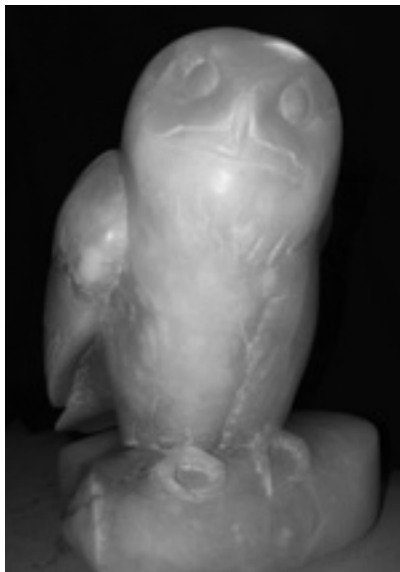


Figure 1. Alabaster carving of an owl by Dr Lewis, from the collection of Dr Graham Clay.



Figure 2. Bronze relief portrait of Dr Brock Fahrni, located in the lobby of the Brock Fahrni Pavilion, Shaughnessy Hospital, Vancouver.

VGH and the University of British Columbia. Interestingly, his initial office was located at 1665 West Broadway, now the address of the BC Medical Association. Aside from his own practice, his responsibilities included developing and managing a rehabilitation service at VGH. That service ultimately extended to include patients at both the Brock Fahrni Pavilion of Shaughnessy Hospital and the George Derby facility in Burnaby, which housed many military retirees.

He enjoyed life in the Lower Mainland and at the family cottage on Salt Spring Island, where much of his free time was spent sketching, painting water colors, and gardening.

In the late 1970s there was a significant change in the direction of his artistic expression when he began doing sculpture. By the end of the decade, sculptures were essentially the only artwork he did. He began studying at Capilano College and stopped all his painting. He likened this focused activity to developing a second career. Nevertheless, he continued his medical practice until 1990, despite being busy sculpting in clay, stone (Figure 1), bronze, and wood. In addition to his sculpture, he made two bronze relief portraits during this period, one of his mother, which is displayed in England, and a commissioned piece of Dr Brock Fahrni (Figure 2).

During this very creative period, Chris was involved in shows at the Robson Square Media Centre and the BC Pavilion, as well as with a juried traveling exhibition seen throughout the interior of BC. One of his life-sized sculptures was accepted in the Capilano College Sculpture Collection in 1996. The breadth of his artistic abilities was remarkable.

—Graham Clay, MD
Vancouver

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Dr Robert (Bob) George Wilson, 1922–2010

My father had a passion for the practice of medicine: the politics, the educational mentoring, and patient care. It was made obvious to me at a young age that being a doctor was a privilege and that it required a sacrifice that was not for everyone. The fact that he missed family or kids' sporting/concert/graduation events was just part of having a dad who was a doctor.

His dedication to his patients, his students, and representing his MD colleagues at many BCMA or CMA meetings was just the way he wanted to do it.

Bob died peacefully in Peace Arch Hospital suffering with a cognitive/dementia condition after a long and productive life. He was born in Vancouver with training and career activities taking him to Montreal, Ottawa, and Kamloops throughout his life. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Marjorie Eleanor (Weber), and his four children, Doug (Wendy), Cathy (Bill), Bruce, and David (Ruth). After completing his service in the Second World War with the Irish Fusiliers (Vancouver), he returned to the University of British Columbia completing a BA (honors in bacteriology and preventive medicine) in 1947 then going on to McGill University (Montreal) for medicine, graduating in 1951. He completed an internship at the Royal Victoria Hospital (Montreal) and a year in medicine at Shaughnessy Hospital (Vancouver) with a career in family practice starting in 1953. He was on the medical staff at Vancouver Gener-

al, Shaughnessy, and Grace Hospitals during his clinical days. He continued his military service as a major in 24 Medical Company (1945–1955).

From 1954–1969 he served as assistant and executive secretary for the British Columbia Medical Association. In this medical leadership position he was part of the Royal Commission on Medicare (Task Force on the Price of Medical Care). As a member of the Canadian Medical Association's Board of Directors, he was elected to the position of chairman (1973–1976). From 1971–1976, he was an instructor and assistant professor, Department of Healthcare and Epidemiology, University of British Columbia. In 1969 he joined the Faculty of Medicine at UBC full-time and was instrumental in establishing the Family Practice Teaching Program at VGH and UBC. He was a founding and life member of the College of Family Physicians of Canada. In 1978 he was appointed senior lecturer, family medicine, University of Ottawa.

From 1976–1981 he was the secretary general of the CMA. He was also on the board of directors of the Canadian Council on Hospital Accreditation, MD Management Ltd., and the Canadian Cancer Society. He was also on the advisory council of St. John's Ambulance and Immigration Medical Review Board, Health and Welfare Canada.

In 1982 he returned to clinical practice in Kamloops with the Medical Services Division, Ministry of Health, for the Province of BC. He retired from clinical medicine in 1987, moving back to Vancouver and later to South Surrey.

Dad was larger than life and was never one to have his opinion ignored. His days at the BCMA under the direction of Dr Tim McCoy were very important to him. His close personal association with Vancouver physicians, particularly Drs Bill McEwan, Tommy Osler, and Billy Charleton, provided him lines of referral when patients required more complicated care.

The love for his universities—UBC and McGill—was obvious through his philanthropic support. The Vancouver Osler Society was a monthly medical tradition with Dad and he saw it as one of his most treasured groups. I had the honor of being a member of this society with my father and I know those evening of learning and discussion on nonmedical topics were not to be missed. At the end of the tradition, Dr Bill McEwan and Dad would get one of their wives to drive them in from South Surrey as the dark nights and rain, at times, made the trip a little tougher for the “boys.”

There are two stories that I clearly remember as a child that are related to Dad and his practice. One night as he was speeding home after a late-night house call in East Vancouver, he was pulled over by the police. He told the officer he was rushing to deliver a baby, and the police followed him to the old Grace Hospital. After he was sure they had left, he drove home a little more slowly. Another was on a Christmas Eve when he was called to the VGH Emergency after one of his toddler patients had aspirated a peanut and wasn't able to be resuscitated. I was 8 years old and had never seen my father cry until that night.

His years in family medicine and his interest in medical students can be continued with a donation in the name of Dr “Bob” Robert G. Wilson, directed to the University of British Columbia, Faculty of Medicine Summer Rural MD Program, c/o Dean's Office, Faculty of Medicine, 317–2194 Health Sciences Mall, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3.

Any correspondence for Marjorie Wilson should be sent to Ms Kate Lucyk-Bowen, 12634 28th Avenue, Surrey, BC V4A 2P3.

When I hear the bagpipes sing, I know that Dad will be dressed in his kilt and singing along.

—Doug Wilson, MD
Calgary