

Dr Leslie Glass 1917–2010

The passing of Dr Leslie Glass noted in the obituary column of the April issue of the *BCMJ* has relevance to our spanking new hospital with its regional designation. The evolution from cottage to regional status has been ably described by Dr Bill Dick and Dr Gordon Gibson in a supplement of the *Abbotsford News* published on 6 March 2008. Dr Glass's relocation there in the early 1970s played no small role in major changes and improvements.

While at first glance it would appear that he came to the Abbotsford area in his late 50s to rusticate, enjoy his farm, and settle into a gradual retirement, nothing could be further from the truth. He burned the midnight oil in Abbotsford and Mission with the same enthusiasm and vigor as he had in Lions Gate Hospital in North Vancouver, where I knew him.

As a pediatrician, it had been my job to attend at infant deliveries to stressed babies when resuscitation might be required. In this role I have observed deliveries in Newfoundland, Toronto, Thunder Bay, and North Vancouver. I had not previously seen the level of expertise in obstetrical matters displayed by Dr Glass. This applied particularly to his ability with Kielland's forceps.

Coincident with obstetrical improvements he expressed the need for a special care nursery, as the facilities at that time were deemed inadequate. A single Armstrong incubator (hot box) represented the level of sophistication. Mission Hospital had an isolette incubator that facilitated oxygen administration. The MSA Hospital Auxiliary was prevailed upon to supply the funds for the first isolette in Abbotsford. Over the next several months further isolettes became available, facilities for infant intravenous

infusions followed together with heart monitors, oximeters, facilities for pH measurement, and an Ohio table replaced the aged Kreiselman resuscitator.

Dr Glass's enthusiasm in clinical matters was infectious. His extensive experience, quietly related, provided valuable lessons to those of us involved in patient care. He left big shoes to fill.

—James E. Parker, MBBCh
Abbotsford

Dr Hugh H. Paterson 1937–2011

13 January 2011 saw the passing of one of northern BC's finest general practitioners.

Hugh was born in Montreal. He studied medicine at the University of Toronto, obtaining his MD in 1963. After a rotating internship, Hugh entered a urology residency in Ottawa but ultimately decided that urology was not his calling. After a period of time working in industry Hugh decided that clinical medicine was what he enjoyed, so in 1972 he and his wife Jeannette moved to Fort St. James, where Hugh practised for 6 years. His surgical training and clinical acumen were real assets in this small, relatively isolated community. On his departure he was given the keys to the city in recognition of his major contribution to the community.

Hugh and his growing family relocated to Prince George, where Hugh practised until his retirement from active clinical practice in 2002. Hugh was a general practitioner in every sense of the word.

Retirement for Hugh was really just a change in focus. He continued to provide surgical assistance, worked in the oncology clinic, and became actively involved with the Northern Medical Program as a problem-based learning tutor. His ability to complement the curriculum with his vast clinical experience was greatly appreciated by his students. For Hugh, practising medicine was an honor, and he did so with compassion and care, qualities he sought to pass on to his students.

While medicine was Hugh's vocation and avocation, golf was his passion throughout his life. He began playing in his early teens and became so accomplished he earned a place on the 1958 National Willingdon Cup team and a golf scholarship to Duke University. He enjoyed the outdoors and all that the north offered, especially fly fishing on the Babine and Morice Rivers.

As a testament to Hugh's character and contribution to the community, more than 400 family, friends, colleagues, and former patients attended

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his memorial service, fittingly held at the University of Northern BC.

Hugh was a true gentleman. He was a compassionate, competent physician, a respected colleague, a loyal friend, a loving husband to Jeannette, and a kind, considerate, loving father to Emily, Jessica, and Melissa. We have all been privileged to share in his life.

—**Doug Blackman, MD**
Vancouver

Dr Clive D. Thompson **1933–2011**

Dr Clive Thompson, one of the most delightful persons to know, was born in Twickenham, London, on 7 August 1933. He grew up there with his three brothers until 1940, when, as a 7-year-old, he was one of thousands of London children evacuated to a safe country area. After the Blitz he returned home only to be evacuated a second time in 1944, when the rockets started to fall on London. The evacuation periods away from his family had a profound impact on him.

In 1945 he started his secondary school education at Thames Valley School in Twickenham. He was a good all-round student and excelled at sport, in particular field hockey, track and field, and tennis. Commenting on his doubles tennis play, one of his friends said that so good was he at the net that the ball had to be lobbed high over him. It was at school where he met Joy, also an outstanding athlete. They were married in 1958 and had three children—Karen, Graham, and Paul—and, later, seven grandchildren. Clive and Joy had 52 years of very happy family life together.

In 1954 he entered the Royal Free School of Medicine in London, qualifying in 1957. After his pre-registration year he joined the Royal Army Medical Corps for 4 years and, in 1960, was posted to Singapore and Malaysia, accompanied by Joy and Karen.

On his return to England he did 6 months of obstetrics before entering

general practice in Welwyn Garden City, 40 kilometres north of London. It was there that he met Drs Wendy and Terry Fidgeon, who were to become lifelong friends. In the early 1960s National Health Service family practice was in turmoil. The British government refused to address family practice concerns and even denied a 14% increase that they had been awarded in arbitration. Clive became a member of a British Medical Association committee attempting, unsuccessfully, to reach a compromise with government. The government's attitude drove family doctors to emigrate by the hundreds. In March 1966 he left the practice in Welwyn and with Joy and the children moved to Red Deer, Alberta, and into general practice in Canada. He also took his interest in medical politics to Alberta with him and sat on the Red Deer Hospital executive, eventually becoming its president, and on the Alberta Medical Association Section of General Practice Committee.

Eight years later he moved to Surrey, BC, to join Dr Terry Fidgeon and his partners in practice; later he set up on his own. He quickly built a full practice, due in no small measure to his great empathy and genuine concern for his patients. In 1979 he was elected to the BCMA Board of Directors, a post he held for 4 years. In 1985 he became a medical advisor for the Workers' Compensation Board, monitoring the standard of care being received by ill or injured workers. In 1988 his known concern for his colleagues led to his appointment as assistant executive director of the British Columbia Medical Association. It was an important and responsible appointment and his colleagues could not have granted him a greater honor. Clive Thompson's professional life was devoted to his patients and colleagues.

In 1993 Clive retired from professional life. He and Joy spent their retirement enjoying being with Karen,



Clive Thompson, MB

Graham, Paul, and their children as they grew up. Clive was a very keen and knowledgeable gardener as those who have seen the garden will attest. For the rest of the time golf and tennis kept him fit until 1 November, when he entered Surrey Memorial Hospital.

Clive was a joy to know. He was a kind and thoughtful person and always there to help. I am glad to have known him over the years. Like all his other friends I will miss him.

—**John O'Brien-Bell, MBBS**
Surrey

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