

Dr Larry Fenton 1934–2012



My lab partner and friend Larry Fenton died on 12 May 2012 from complications of Huntington disease.

Larry and his wife, Rondeau—also his best friend, enjoyed the culture and people of Chemainus, where Larry worked with two family doctors, Gordon Heydon and Jerry Philippon, at the full-service hospital. Built in 1899, it was for many years the only hospital between Victoria and Nanaimo.

It was an exciting time for these family physicians; delivering babies, operating, dealing with industrial and road accident victims, all the while also administering anesthetics!

Larry was an adventurous outdoorsman. His father was part of a group of citizens of Trail and Rossland who developed the Red Mountain ski area and built its wood-towered ski lift. Larry soon became an expert skier, attached to his long pine skis with unyielding leather thongs.

He enjoyed the ocean, from his

Uncle Gus's rescue boat to more accommodating vessels. He had a passion for nature, spending weekends camping in a tent with his dog by his side.

Larry enthusiastically gave back to his community. A long-time Rotarian, he was granted honorary membership in 2000 and was a recipient of the prestigious Paul Harris award.

All the while, unbeknownst to Larry, Rondeau, and their family, there lurked the Huntington disease genetic mutation, resulting in gradual health-related changes that after 16 years took his life.

He is survived by his caring wife Rondeau; children Doug, Tim, and Jennifer; and five grandchildren.

—David Harder, MD
Oyama

Dr Peter J. Middleton 1932–2012

Peter was born in New Zealand in 1932 and attended medical school at the University of Otago where, during a fellowship, he explored the role of chemical carcinogens in tumor development. He trained as a pathologist and worked at the University of Otago. He subsequently spent a year at the Ruchill Institute of Virology and then

returned to Otago to work in virology. In 1968 he was recruited to the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, where he established the Department of Virology and developed a pre-eminent diagnostic laboratory. He was appointed to the University of Toronto where he lectured in clinical virology. In 1987 he was recruited to the Department of Pathology at the University of British Columbia where he worked as the head of the Virology Laboratory at the Provincial Health Laboratory and subsequently at the BC Centre for Disease Control.

Peter will be remembered for his tireless work in promoting the discipline of clinical virology in Toronto and Vancouver. In Toronto he was a leader in introducing technology for rapid virus diagnosis, namely immunofluorescence microscopy and electron microscopy. His efforts were rewarded when his lab became one of the first to discover human rotaviruses and subsequently other gastrointestinal viruses, for which he gained international recognition. His laboratory was also a leader in the application of immunofluorescence microscopy for the detection of respiratory viruses, and electron microscopy for the detection of agents such as herpes viruses

Correction: Drs Ronald Hancock and Phillip Ashmore



Dr Ronald Hancock

In the April issue of the *BCMJ* (2012; 54[3]:149-149) we printed the obituary of Vancouver general surgeon Dr Ronald Hancock, but ran his photo over the obituary of pediatric cardiac surgeon Dr Phillip Ashmore. Everyone who knew these two fine surgeons was aware of the error and had a chuckle—we hope—at our expense. For the record, here are photos of both well-loved surgeons. Our sincere apologies.—ED



Dr Phillip Ashmore

University of British Columbia Archives [UBC 41.1/2565]

from skin lesions. It was also one of the first computerized virology laboratories in the country.

At the Hospital for Sick Children he could be found on the wards daily checking requests for virus testing by reviewing the patients' medical records. He also established the practice of skin lesion specimens being collected by the virologist. This assured a very rapid diagnosis which was of particular benefit in the management of immunocompromised patients and the practice of infection control.

Peter was a very effective mentor of the residents and graduate students who passed through his laboratory. He showed good acumen in assigning feasible, but important, research topics to residents during their rotations; the research generally resulted in publications. Virtually all Toronto residents in microbiology over a 20-year period passed through his laboratory and had the benefit of his teaching. As a laboratory director he was known for his innovative approaches and for his support of his laboratory staff. As a department head he was heavily involved with administration, including serving as chair of the Medical Advisory Committee during some of the most controversial years of the existence of the Hospital for Sick Children. He gained international recognition by being elected president of the Pan-American Society for Clinical Virology.

He read voraciously and had an outstanding command of virology literature—consulting him was always a rewarding experience. He was excellent company, well traveled and well read. He died on 8 April 2012 and is survived by his wife Barbara.

Those of us who had the privilege of knowing Peter are better off for it. We have truly lost an outstanding friend and colleague.

—Richard K. Elwood, MD
Vancouver

Recently deceased physicians

The following physicians died over the past several months; please consider submitting a piece for our "In Memoriam" section in the *BCM/J* if you knew the deceased well.

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| Battershill, Dr James Henry | Lee, Dr Robert Edmund Musgrave |
| Bennett, Dr William Edward John | MacDonald, Dr Douglas Keith |
| Binnie, Dr James Percy Kennedy | Mar, Dr Jacque |
| Blouw, Dr Hendrik | Markle, Dr Craig |
| Bulmer, Dr Gordon Ross | McCann, Dr James Alan |
| Buskard, Dr Noel Adams | Melynychuk, Dr Alex Tom |
| Cunningham, Dr Joseph | Murray, Dr Patrick J. |
| Daitz, Dr Laurence Douglas | Penny, Dr Helen Angela |
| Davis, Dr Hymie | Pratt, Dr Vincent James |
| Dick, Dr Arthur R. | Pronger, Dr Ralph Clifton |
| Dillon, Dr William Wilson | Rideout, Dr Chester Franklin |
| Dixon-Warren, Dr Brian Cedric | Roach, Dr Mark |
| Dukelow, Dr James Benson | Rogers, Dr Roger Hayward |
| Glazebrook, Dr George Alan | Sargent, Dr Raymond Denys Richmond |
| Gordon, Dr Mary Ethelwyn | Shahriw, Dr William Wasyl |
| Graham, Dr Donald Carter | Singh, Dr Parminder |
| Gransden, Dr Godfrey McCance | St. Louis, Dr Henri Edgar |
| Grehan, Dr Anthony Joseph | Tam, Dr Ennio Andrea |
| Greig, Dr James Henry | Thomson, Dr Ian Blake |
| Hassan, Dr Mogamat Aly | Trott, Dr Alvin Walter John |
| Hogan, Dr John Thomas | Wallace, Dr George Scott |
| Kellett, Dr John Robert | Waugh, Dr Fredrick Potts |
| Lane, Dr John Samuel Purefoy | Williams, Dr Floyd George |
| Laszlo, Dr Magdalene Sarah | Wolochow, Dr Manley Samuel |
| Lazarchuk, Dr Myron | |

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