



Dr John Harford Harland 1923–2018

Dr John Harford Harland was born on 8 May 1923 in Belfast, Northern Ireland, to a well-known Ulster family.

One brother, Robert Wallace Harland, OBE, PhD, was director of student health services at Queen's University for many years. The other twin, Dr William Arthur Harland, was regius professor at the University of Glasgow from 1974 to 1985. Their mother, Elizabeth, was one of the earliest medical graduates at Queen's University. She served 6 years after graduation in India as an obstetrical medical missionary. On returning to Belfast she married, practised medicine as a GP in Belfast, and started a family.

John developed a strong interest in tall sailing ships and sailors at a young age and enjoyed visiting the Belfast docks with his father and making ship models at home. John did well in school because he was so focused and good in languages and calculus, and he was also a terrific reader with a great memory. At Queen's University he decided to take medicine and enrolled in 1939. After completing his first 2 years he volunteered for the Royal Navy.

For the next 4 years, as a sublieutenant he worked on coal-burning mine sweepers, and then he sailed/ferried motor fishing vessels from West Africa to Cape Town, where he

was stationed at the Naval Air Station. In Cape Town he commanded small fast gunboats with a crew of 14 to patrol and protect allied shipping. These boats were well armed and had depth charges, too. At the end of the war he was promoted to lieutenant then returned to medical school and graduated in 1949 as a doctor.

After graduation he married Janet Morrison, a nurse from Glasgow. In 1951 they immigrated to Kamloops where he worked as a GP. Shortly after he decided to become an anesthetist and trained for his fellowship at Vancouver General Hospital, University Hospital in Saskatoon, and Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. In 1960 he and Janet decided to move to Kelowna where John joined the Underhill Clinic as a GP and an anesthesiologist at Kelowna General Hospital. He retired in 1986 from the Department of Anesthesia.

When he left the navy John developed an interest in maritime history, languages, and writing. John read German and spoke French and Norwegian. His research took him seamlessly into the modern computer and its ramifications and desktop publications. John wrote many articles for the *Mariner's Mirror* and the *Nautical Research Journal*. His books on maritime history are well written, the illustrations are superb, and the details meticulous:

- *Seamanship in the Age of Sail: An Account of the Shiphandling of the Sailing Man-of-war, 1600-1860, Based on Contemporary Sources* (illustrated by Mark Myers)
- *Catchers and Corvettes. The Steam Whalecatcher in Peace and War, 1860-1960*
- *Ships and Seamanship: The Maritime Prints of J.J. Baugean*
- *Capstans and Windlasses: An Illustrated History of Their Use at Sea*
- *Anatomy of the Ship: The Flower*

Class Corvette Agassiz (with John McKay)

- *Fireship: The Terror Weapon of the Age of Sail* (by Peter Kirsch, translated from German by John Harland)

On 10 April 2017 John was presented with the SS *Beaver* Medal by the Maritime Museum of BC. He was recognized for his internationally respected maritime publications. John has donated his entire library of books to the Naval Marine Archive, Canadian Collection, in Ontario.

John was a precise man and left-brained too. Janet is just as smart but more right-brained. Janet carried life's melodies while John carried the rhythm and the measured beat. While John was working, writing, and sailing on Kelowna's Okanagan Lake with the kids, Janet became a multitasking wife, mother, and

Recently deceased physicians

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grandmother. While she was totally supportive of the family, she made time to serve on the Kelowna School and College Boards. Together they traveled the world in retirement.

John leaves three children, Jack, Jan, and Christine; grandchildren, Ian, Matthew, Christina, and Jillian; and three great-grandchildren, Harlow, Stevie, and Leo.

—Sterling Haynes, MD
Kelowna



Dr Kathleen Wilson (Johnston) 1948–2017

Dr Katie Wilson died on 13 November 2017, having been diagnosed 8 months earlier with acute myeloid leukemia.

Katie was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, in 1948. Her father was a farmer and her mother a nurse. After starting her schooling in a one-room school close to the family farm, she enrolled at the Rainey Endowed School in the nearest town, Magherafelt. She excelled at school and in her final year was made head girl, played field hockey for the first 11, and was leading lady in the school opera. Katie entered the Faculty of Medicine at Queen’s University Belfast in 1967. She took full advantage of university life, again playing field hockey and singing in the prestigious Royal Victoria Hospital Choir. Katie graduated in 1973 and began a junior house officer’s job in Craigavon Hospital. It was quite a year, as this was at the height of the “troubles” in Northern Ireland, and Craigavon was situated at the head of an area known

locally as Murder Triangle. The hospital was continually filling up with gunshot-wound and bomb-blast victims, which made for a unique and challenging training experience.

Katie and her husband Billy moved to Winnipeg in 1975. This was in no small measure due to the allure of a more peaceful life in Canada. In Winnipeg she worked in general practice at “Klinik with a K” serving the downtown core area of the city. During that time she had her first son, Samuel. In 1979, Katie moved with her family to Chilliwack, BC, and soon after she gave birth to her second son, Edward. Katie then took a 4-year leave from her medical practice to get her young family on a solid footing. When she returned to general practice she noticed a dearth of services in the community for the frail elderly. She therefore enrolled in a fellowship in geriatrics at the University of British Columbia, follow-


ing which she returned to Chilliwack, where she became the de facto geriatrician for the upper Fraser Valley area of the province. For many years Katie gave of herself unsparingly to the elderly of the area. In 2008, she received with pride the Above and Beyond Award from the Fraser Valley Health Region. She was also proud of Netcare, a multidisciplinary day-care centre for the elderly that she helped to establish.

Katie retired in 2014 and enjoyed spending her time with her four grandchildren, gardening, cooking, traveling, and relaxing at her cottage on Savary Island.

She will be sorely missed by family, friends, and former colleagues and patients.

—William G. Johnston, MB, FRCS
Chilliwack


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