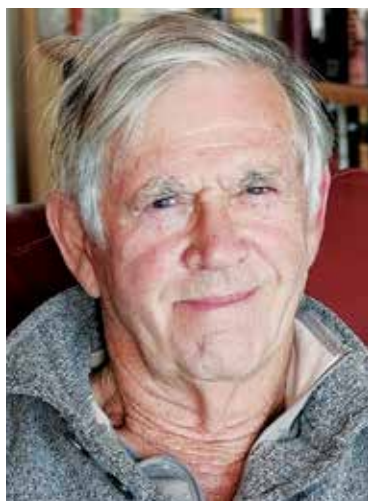


Obituaries

We welcome original tributes of less than 700 words; we may edit them for clarity and length. Email obituaries to journal@doctorsofbc.ca. Include birth and death dates, full name and name deceased was best known by, key hospital and professional affiliations, relevant biographical data, and a high-resolution head-and-shoulders photo.



Dr Bryan Wiggins
1939–2025

With great sadness, we announce the passing of Dr Bryan Wiggins of Nanaimo, BC, on 10 March 2025 at age 85. Bryan was born on 1 June 1939 in Marton, New Zealand, to Jean Paterson Wiggins and Francis Vincent Wiggins.

A lifelong scholar and adventurer, Bryan attended the School of Physiotherapy at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand, from 1963 to 1965. He continued his medical studies in London, England, from 1968 to 1975, earning his MD from Middlesex Hospital Medical School at the University of London, where he was recognized with prizes in surgery, anatomy, and orthopaedics. He later specialized in urology, qualifying as a surgeon at the University of Western Ontario in 1982.

Bryan's career was as vast and varied as his interests. A globetrotter with an exceptional mind, he held 45 different jobs in 28

locations across six countries. In early adulthood, his work included installing fences, bricklaying, selling ice cream, serving as a housemaster at a boys' school, and teaching English in Germany. As a physiotherapist in Christchurch, New Zealand, and later a general practitioner in New Zealand, England, and Canada, he dedicated his life to medicine. He eventually settled in British Columbia, working as a surgeon at hospitals in Nanaimo, Ladysmith, and Duncan, until his retirement.

Bryan was known for his sharp wit, boundless energy, and dedication to excellence. He loved his medical career, competitive sports (particularly golf), world history and culture, creative pursuits, automobiles and car racing, animals, travel, and—above all—spending time with his friends and family.

He is survived by his partner, Cynthia Olson; his children, Silya, Kaya, and Jon Wiggins; his grandchildren, Madeline Wiggins, Chloe Postawski, and Evan Ranieri; his sister-in-law, Judy Wiggins; and his nephews, Hamish, Andrew, and Simon Wiggins, along with their families in New Zealand and Australia.

Bryan was predeceased by his parents, Jean and Francis Wiggins; brother, Michael Wiggins; and former spouses, Anne Wiggins (Beehan) and Ruta Wiggins (Onni).

Per Bryan's wishes, no formal service will be held, but a gathering of close friends and family will take place at a later date. In lieu of flowers, those who wish to make a memorial contribution are invited to donate to the SPCA, an organization close to Bryan's heart.

—Jon Wiggins
Victoria

—Kaya Wiggins
Vancouver



Dr Gavin Wynne Smart
1958–2025

Dr Gavin Smart passed away suddenly in Vernon, BC, on 27 February 2025. Gavin was born in Edmonton and grew up in Victoria. He obtained his Bachelor of Science in kinesiology at Simon Fraser University in 1979 and his MD from the University of British Columbia in 1984. He did his rotating internship at Wellesley Hospital in Toronto until 1985 and then worked briefly in Thunder Bay before returning to BC to start a residency in rehabilitation medicine. After 1 year in residency, Gavin decided he'd rather be a general practitioner and, along with his wife Rhonda, joined his friends Bill and April Sanders in Quesnel, BC, where they were working at the time. While in Quesnel, Gavin and Rhonda welcomed into the world their son Rowan and daughter Silken. After 7 years of full-service general practice work in Quesnel, he relocated with

his family to Vernon, where he spent the rest of his life.

Gavin was a man of many talents. He was a gifted athlete. In his final year of high school, he was the fastest 400-metre runner on Vancouver Island. Despite initially being a sprinter, he decided to run longer distances and eventually ran the 1984 Vancouver marathon. He competed on the UBC track team while in medical school. Gavin also played soccer, cycled mountain and road bikes, paddled river canoes, skied cross-country and downhill, and went on numerous backpacking adventures with friends and family. He also completed the Penticton Ironman. For many years, Gavin paddled the Bowron Lake Canoe Circuit with friends from Vernon and Quesnel during reunions in October.

Gavin was a skilled woodworker, photographer, and videographer. He always took cameras and drones on trips to slightly annoy his friends and family with admonitions to pose for the camera, only to later

produce entertaining professional-quality photo and video montages. Gavin also had the unusual musical talent of being able to play almost any tune on the piano by ear. He rarely needed to use sheet music.

Gavin was a ferocious organizer and volunteer. He ran annual winter and summer triathlons in Quesnel, was on the planning committee to build Vernon's indoor soccer facility, was one of the main organizers of the annual Vernon Doctors Hockey tournament, was a physician to the Air Rescue One Heli Winch Society, was head physician to the SilverStar Mountain Ski Docs program, was physician to the Vernon Vipers hockey team for many years, and was chief of family practice at Vernon Jubilee Hospital for several terms.

But where Gavin really shone was as a family doctor. Beloved by his many grateful patients, he practised with the highest of integrity. Conscientious almost to a fault, Gavin was well known for his thorough care.

Kindness was also one of Gavin's defining characteristics. He would happily offer to perform a professional-quality photo shoot for you or your family, custom-frame your picture with his woodworking tools, refurbish your canoe, or just drive you somewhere when you weren't able to drive yourself. As friends go, he was the best. He was our friend for almost 50 years, and he will be deeply missed.

—William Sanders, MD
Vernon

—April Sanders, MD
Vernon

GROW YOUR PRACTICE WITH BOTOX

Therapeutic & Aesthetic Injectables Training



Train to the highest Standard of Practice
in Canada for facial aesthetics



The most clinically based training
Inject 8+ patients at the hands-on



Anatomy-based training 25 hrs
in Level 1 online

SAVE
\$500
LEVEL 1



START TODAY WITH THE ONLINE
LEVEL 1 ANATOMY COURSE (25 CE)

USE "SAVENOW" PROMO CODE. EXP JUNE 30, 2025



PACIFIC TRAINING INSTITUTE
for FACIAL AESTHETICS & THERAPEUTICS

Level 2 clinical hands-on training available in the following cities:
Vancouver • Calgary • Saskatoon • Montreal • Toronto • Halifax • St. John's

PTIFA.com | 1-855-681-0066