Paul Ernest Pearce

With great sadness and thanksgiving for his life, we share that Paul died suddenly on September 17, 2024. He will be dearly missed as a husband, father, grandfather, pastor and friend to many.

Born to Jack & Bessie Pearce in Brantford, Ontario on September 19, 1947, Paul was the middle of five siblings (Alan, David, Shirley, and Carol) and grew up on a small farm. He had an early and sustained connection with the church community which grew in his youth and continued throughout his life. While initially pursuing studies in accounting, he found his passion in ministry and moved to Alberta for further education in classical studies and theology.

He went on to meet Patsy, a young woman also recently arrived in Edmonton. They would be married for nearly fifty years and raise a son, Jonathan. Life would carry them from Edmonton to Vancouver to Calgary to Toronto and then back to the West Coast. Paul was the pastor for several local Baptist congregations across Canada and then served as the area minister for British Columbia for the Canadian Baptists of Western Canada helping to support pastors and congregations across the province. He had a keen interest in helping to understand how to develop healthy multicultural churches representative of the diversity of Canadian society, on which he focussed his doctoral studies. In his later ministry, he was also devoted to the development of affordable housing for seniors in his work with Beulah Garden Homes, Vancouver. He helped facilitate conversation and interest in how to be thoughtful and live intentionally into our later lives in his work with the Centre for Healthy Aging Transitions.

Calm but joyful, he found beauty in the day to day – the smiles of his grandchildren, his love of walking, sharing food

together, and blooming sunflowers amongst many others. Paul lived with steadfast commitment to his family and faith. While he experienced and witnessed the suffering of many, he lived with great hope in God's faithfulness and goodness in a broken world. May we all continue to carry this hope in our lives.

"May you know that absence is alive with hidden presence, that nothing is ever lost or forgotten." –John O'Donahue

If you wish to make a contribution in remembrance of Paul, you may do so to either Kinbrace Community Society, Vancouver or The Mustard Seed, Victoria.

Condolences may be offered to the family below.

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