

William Alexander Douglas (Doug) Burns

Born on October 12, 1928, the son of the late John W. C. and Olive M. Burns of Edmonton, AB. Doug died on June 22, 2015, in Victoria, BC. Doug leaves to mourn his loss his loving wife, Nancy Ann (Paddy); nephews, John Rose, Richmond and Ian Rose, Dominican Republic; nieces, Pat Cooper, Winnipeg and Shannon Rose, Florida; godsons, Darik Johnson, Edmonton and Tim Stock-Bateman, Calgary. He was predeceased by his sister, Patricia Buckingham (Rose).

A graduate of the University of Alberta, Doug was Student Council President. He was awarded an Executive Gold Ring and membership in the Gold Key Honour Society. He served as a statutory member of the University Senate. In 1954, he was elected the first full-time paid President of the National Federation of Canadian University Students petitioning the federal government for post-secondary student scholarships which ultimately led to a federal program of student financial aid.

On returning to Edmonton from Ottawa, Doug served four years in the Canadian Army on call-out active duty from the Army militia Loyal Edmonton Regiment. He was awarded the Queen 11 Coronation Medal in 1953 and the Canadian Forces Decoration in 1959 and retired with the rank of L Col. In 1960, Doug commenced 28 years' service as an Administrative Professional Officer (Admissions Registrar) at the U of A and he retired as Special Assistant to the President. He also served as Commanding Officer of the U of A COTC. He was President of the Association of Registrars of Universities of Canada; U of A member ATA Teachers' Salary Qualification Committee; member of Admissions, Evaluation and Placement Committee of the American Association of College Registrars and Admission Officers; first Canadian chairman of the World Education Series

Committee; participant in the international workshop in Puerto Rico on Latin American education and as project director of the Scandinavian Workshop on the placement of international students; Director of both the World University Service of Canada and the Canadian Bureau for International Education and a member of the National Association for Foreign Students Affairs. He was Chairman of the Alberta Selection Committee for United World Colleges for 27 years and a patron of L.B. Pearson College of the Pacific since its inception. A fifth generation Edmontonian, Doug believed deeply in community service. He was a shareholder Director of the Edmonton Exhibition; Chairman of Parade Committee and Finance and Audit Committee of Edmonton Northlands (life member); Parade Marshal for Edmonton Exhibition and Klondike Days Parade from 1960-1985 and Protocol Commissioner for the World University Games in 1983-84. Doug was the Province of Alberta member of the Minister of National Defence Advisory Board on Military Colleges; President of the Northern Alberta Army Cadet League; Chairman of the Kurimoto Japanese Garden of the Devonian Botanic Garden and President of the University of Alberta Faculty Club. After his early retirement in 1988, Doug and Paddy moved to Victoria where he was a deputy chairman for the 1994 Commonwealth Games and Secretary-Treasurer of Loyal Edmonton Regiment BC Association for 15 years. Doug was a life-time member of the Anglican Church and was People's Warden and Lay Reader at St. George's Anglican Church, Edmonton and People's Warden and Synod delegate at St. Peter's Anglican Church, Victoria, BC Diocese. This honourable man was deeply loved and will be sadly missed.

Funeral service will be held in Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria, BC on Thursday, July 2, 2015 at 2:00 pm.

If you wish, donations in Doug's memory may be made to Victoria Hospice or Primate World Relief and Development Fund.

Condolences may be offered to the family below.

Sequoia Gardens Memorial

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