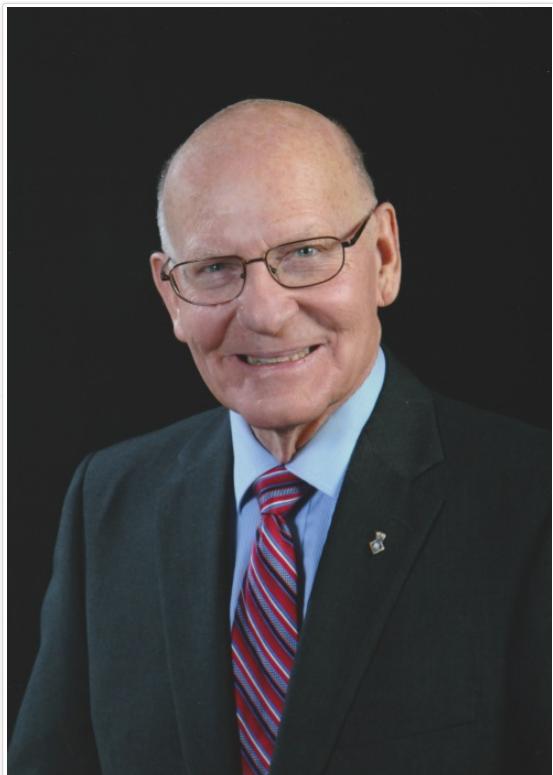


*Provided by Belvedere Funeral Home*

# Donald John Patton

April 21, 1943 ~ December 2, 2022 (age 79)



It is with great sadness we announce that Donald Patton (79) passed away peacefully with loved ones at his side on Friday, December 2, 2022. His passing resulted from complications following cancer surgery, at Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, Ontario over a four-month period.

Donald was born in Point-a-Pierre, Trinidad, to John and Isabel Patton, on April 21, 1943.

Donald was a loving husband to his late wife Barbara (1967-1999) and to Linda, whom he married in 2007.

Donald was father to Katherine Patton of Toronto, Elizabeth Patton (Simon Trépanier) of Edinburgh, and Andrew (Gillian) Patton of Edmonton; step-father to Stephen (Sarah) Ross of Charlottetown and Ashley (Jeffery) Zahavich of Halifax; grandfather to Barbara, Maeve, and Fiona Simms of Toronto, Madeleine and Laurent Trépanier of Edinburgh, Oliver, Elijah, and Isaac Patton of Edmonton, Collin Ross of Charlottetown, and Roslyn, Esme, and Wrenley Zahavich of Halifax; brother to Anita Carrier of Montreal and Joan Siwik of Maxville; uncle to many nieces and nephews, friend and mentor to countless others.

As a child, Donald moved with his family to Canada in 1951, first to Toronto, and then to Montreal. He studied economics at University of New Brunswick (Honours 1965), where he met his first wife Barbara, along with many life-long friends. He joined the Royal Canadian Naval Reserves (Lieutenant) and later retired in 1965. He received his MA in economics in 1967 from the University of Toronto, and his DBA from Indiana University in 1973.

Early in his academic career Donald taught in Tunisia and Montreal before moving with his growing family to Halifax in 1975. There he was founding director of the Centre for International Business at Dalhousie University; he built his career as a Professor in the School of Business, serving a term as Director. Halifax is also where he and Barbara raised their three children in a community of truly good friends, whom they regarded as family.

## Services

### Visitation

Sunday

December 11, 2022

2:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Belvedere Funeral Home

175 Belvedere Ave.

Charlottetown, PE C1A 2Y9

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### Funeral Service

Monday

December 12, 2022

11:00 AM

Park Royal United Church

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From 1980 - 1982, Donald took a leave from Dalhousie University and moved his family to Jakarta, Indonesia, where he served as a Trade Commissioner in the Canadian Embassy. He also taught for six summers at the University of Zimbabwe in the 1980s, on one occasion bringing his family. These international experiences built strong memories with Barbara and their children.

In Halifax, Donald's appreciation of historic buildings and good urban planning led him to work with the Friends of the Public Gardens, the Old Burying Ground, and to serve as President of Heritage Trust (Nova Scotia). He had a long history of camping and canoeing going back to his childhood, that he continued through a series of legendary annual camping trips with his children and good friends.

Upon his retirement, in 2006, Donald moved to Charlottetown, PEI to be with Linda. Donald's love of camping and adventure was reignited when they bought their beloved 16' Airstream trailer. They spent many happy summers exploring Canada and the United States (from Newfoundland to Vancouver Island and from Yukon to the Grand Canyon). He continued to contribute to his new community through several volunteer positions, including President of the Royal Commonwealth Society, board member of the McPhail Homestead, Chair of the Institute for Architectural Studies and Conservation, and Chair of the Old Protestant Burying Ground. For this work, he received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012.

Donald will forever be remembered for his warm and welcoming personality, impeccable conversation skills, love of history, appreciation of good architecture and his knack for capturing each 'part of the story' in photographs.

The family wishes to send a special thank you to the staff at Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto Ontario and to Dr. Jeff Craswell, Charlottetown, PEI for their care and compassion.

Visitation will be held at Belvedere Funeral Home (175 Belvedere Ave, Charlottetown) on Sunday, December 11th from 2-5pm. A funeral service will be held at Park Royal United Church (11 Christie Dr, Charlottetown) on Monday, December 12th at 11:00 AM. The church will be livestreaming this

service.

Memorial Donations may be made in Donald Patton's name to Island Nature Trust and the Canadian Cancer Society. Family flowers only.

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Donations may be made to:

**Canadian Cancer Society**

55 St. Clair Avenue West Suite 500, Toronto ON M4V 2Y7

**Tel:** 1-888-939-3333

**Island Nature Trust**

112 Longworth Avenue, Charlottetown PE C1A 7K4

**Tel:** 1-902-892-7513

**Web:** <https://islandnaturetrust.ca/> (<https://islandnaturetrust.ca/>)

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## Guest Book

Message from **Doug Baggs**

February 28, 2023 12:41 PM

*I just received the sad news of Don's passing. I knew Don at Jones House UNB and we were later at the same boarding house in downtown Fredericton. He was a good guy-friendly, considerate and respected by everyone.*

*My sympathy to Don's family.*

*Doug Baggs Arts '64*

## Message from Anna Fraser

January 11, 2023 6:19 PM

*I was saddened to hear of the death of Donald Patton. I grew up partly in Halifax (my father taught at Dalhousie) and was in Katherine's year at school. I remember Donald and Barbara, and the warmth, kindness and hospitality of the Patton household very well. Donald had a great gift for relating to people individually - his conversation was always positive and encouraging as well as very interesting and entertaining - and I am not surprised to read that he was a mentor to many people. I would like to extend my condolences to his wife, and to Katherine, Elizabeth and Andrew and their families.*

## Message from Leo and Rosalie Steven

January 2, 2023 8:16 AM

*Dear Linda, please accept our sincere condolences on the passing of Donald. We remember the meals and enlightening conversations we shared with yourself and Donald while living in PEI. Donald was a remarkable man with an unmatched intellect and life experiences which made him an incredible communicator conversant with a deep trove of knowledge. We count ourselves fortunate to have known Donald from the first time we met at the Georgetown Inn and through many additional occasions. He was a compassionate and gentle man who was well respected. We wish you love and support as you grieve at this time.*

## Message from Bill and Stella Lord

December 16, 2022 11:25 PM

*When my husband moved to Halifax from Victoria in late 1986 and I and our daughter followed in 1987 Donald and his first wife Barbara reached out to us with the kind of generous hospitality they were well known for. We remember many Christmas's in their home with lots of family and friends. We will always remember Donald for his kindness, his attentiveness and his entertaining conversation. Several years after Barbara died and he moved to PEI to be with Linda, he still managed to keep up with his many friends in Halifax. He was greatly admired and respected. He is greatly missed.*

## Message from Hazel and John Robinson

December 15, 2022 6:10 PM

*We have many fond memories of Don. He was kind, passionate, and a fine gentleman. He contributed so much during his life and will be truly missed. Sending our condolences to Linda and family. Sincerely, Hazel and John Robinson.*

## Message from Philip and Sue Rosson

December 14, 2022 6:04 AM

*Sending our thoughts and fond memories of Don. Don & Barbara were some of the dear friends we met through Dalhousie when we all arrived in 1975. We spent many happy times with our family at their home over the years. Don was a wonderful man, kind, warm and engaging. Love to his family, with special thoughts for Katherine, Elizabeth & Andrew.*

*Sue & Philip Rosson*

## Message from jeff schofield

December 12, 2022 8:58 AM

*Best regards to the family.....Don was my room mate at Jones House UNB for two years...good memories*

## Message from Ian &amp; Daphne Scott

December 11, 2022 8:54 PM

*Our condolences to Linda and all the family. I (Ian) have so many good memories of the leadership that Don provided to the board of Seniors College, during the years that it was seeing steady growth in numbers and spreading its programs across the Island. His dedication as a board member to the College and his mentorship in helping us create a management committee to deal with the issues that arose was critical to harnessing the growth and deliver programming. His dedication to local history, architecture and the Island community was a great inspiration and remains part of his legacy.*

**Message from Jeannie Lea**

December 10, 2022 7:10 PM

*Linda and family please accept our sincere condolences on Dons passing. He was a wonderful person and we enjoyed our many chats as you walked by our house. He accomplished much with his life and lived it to the fullest. Sorry we are not on the island to express this to you in person.*  
*Jim and Jeannie Lea*

**Message from Gabriele & Alan Bentley**

December 10, 2022 4:02 PM

*Linda and family..we are so very sorry to learn of Dons passing, we so enjoyed our chats, particularly about the Mott family who by fate played a large role in my (Gabriele) young life as my family immigrated to New Brunswick and eventually purchased the Mott farm in 1959. So many years later I would be sitting across from Don&Linda at a luncheon after an organized hike where the connection came apparent. Don&Linda had wonderful trips that were inspiring and Don certainly led a full life in his many career placements. Don was a true gentleman in every sense of the word, we will miss our many chats, he will be greatly missed by many. We extend our most deepest condolences to Linda,Anita, the children and grandchildren and the Andrew family.*

**Message from Martin Fleckenstein**

December 10, 2022 3:35 PM

*I remember meeting Don and Barb in Kennebecasis Park ,New Brunswick in the 1970s. My mother and brother Steve arranged to visit the Pattons when they lived in Tunis. We enjoyed their kindness when we had visited the areas of Carthage and the desert in Tunisia. I was exposed to the new worlds of ancient Roman culture and the kindness of the Pattons. On their return to Canada they brought an african dog they called Scotch. I was impressed with Dons gentleness and kindness whenever we had a chance to meet.*  
*I wish to extend my sincere condolences to Dons family.I am proud to consider Don a true friend.*  
*Thank you for everything that you offered us unconditionally while I grew up in Saint John.*  
*Sincerely, Martin Fleckenstein*

## Message from Katherine Younker

December 9, 2022 8:38 PM

I too, am a former Dalhousie MBA (2000) student and had Dr. Patton as a professor. He spoke with fondness about his time in Jakarta and stressed to each of us the importance of networking and to take opportunities, whenever possible. He was encouraging, genuine, kind, respectful, and a true example of leadership. Dr. Patton loved his family and often spoke fondly of his wife Barbara. The world has lost a great example to others. Condolences to all family and friends.

## Message from Arne Johnson

December 9, 2022 6:07 PM

Very sad news indeed, my most sincere condolences to the family. Don and Barb and I were at UNB at the same time, all good friends at that time. For some strange reason we fielded telephone calls for each other at one time in the 80's because the last 4 digits of our business telephone numbers were the same. RIP Don RIP, you were always a fine gentleman.

Arne Johnson

## Message from Karen Beazley

December 9, 2022 3:49 PM

I remember Don with respect and admiration as a kind and gentle man. I was new prof, and a wet-behind-the-ears director, and yet he always took an interest in me and my ideas, as a colleague and as a person. I was always happy to see him at events and in meetings, making the whole thing more enjoyable for me and many others. He put me at ease, making me feel welcome, and I assume I am not alone in that. His contributions were many and varied. He lives on in all of our fond memories. May he rest in peace. Condolences to his family and many friends and colleagues.

Message from **David Stevenson**

December 9, 2022 3:34 PM

*Dr. Patton was a true gentleman! Always welcoming to anyone who was fortunate to meet him. I too was fortunate to be one of his MBA students learning both international and marine business. I spent 2 years in Warsaw, Poland after my MBA. I would never have thought of doing such a thing if it wasn't for Dr. Patton opening my eyes to a world beyond Canada. Thank you sir for sharing your generosity, knowledge, and kindness with the world. You will be missed! My heart goes to all his loved ones!*

Message from **Donnie and Heather Thompson**

December 9, 2022 2:49 PM

*To Linda and family;  
Very sorry to hear of Donald's passing. Our thoughts are with you. Please accept our condolences.*

Message from **Viola Caume**

December 9, 2022 1:30 PM

*I worked with Don in the School of Business on a daily basis in the Director's office. We had some lovely discussions about his family and we became friends from there. I used to make several visits to his home to take care of the family cat Poseidon while he was away on trips. I had also dropped by to say hi to him in Charlottetown when I was vacationing, he was doing his gardening in the yard and he was so surprised to see me, we had a lovely visit. Don had reached out to me a few years back just to catch up on who was still working at the School, as I'm still employed there. Don was well liked and will be missed by many friends. My thoughts are with all his family.*

Message from **Tom Calkin**

December 9, 2022 11:50 AM

*Dear Linda and Patton Family*

*I went to school at UNB with Don. We lived in the same residence and on the same floor. So simply put we were friends at that time.*

*I left Nova Scotia for 20 plus years so read about Don and his good works as I kept up with friends in Halifax.*

*When I saw the picture in the Halifax obituary I was sure I recognized the picture. Because Don was such a special person, I wanted to extend my condolences to you all at this difficult time.*

*Simply put, Don was a fine human being who contributed much to his community of choice at any given time. My memories go back 60 years plus when we were students. (I graduated in 1963 from UNB). His death saddened me and while I do not know you I wanted to acknowledge my sadness at his passing.*

*Sincerely*

*Tom*

Message from **Michael Whalen**

December 9, 2022 10:05 AM

*I was fortunate to be a student of Don's in the MBA program at Dalhousie in the late 1970's. He instilled in me a love of travel and international business that ultimately led me to live, work and visit over seventy countries over the course of my career. His Bougainville Copper simulation was a highlight of my time at Dalhousie and I thought of him several years later when I actually visited the mine in Papua New Guinea. Very few professors leave a lasting impression on their students, Don was one. He will be missed.*

Message from **June Jenkins sanderson**

December 9, 2022 9:42 AM

*My sincere condolences to the whole family. A "life well lived" comes to mind when I read the obituary and remember times with him. Always a warm smile and an opportunity to have an interesting dialogue when in Dons presence. He leaves a great legacy and will not be forgotten.*

*May the rich memories bring peace through this difficult time.*

Message from **John Rankin**

December 9, 2022 9:18 AM

*Condolences to Donald's family on his passing. I was a student of Donald's at the Centre for International Business at Dal. He was very fair and engaging. I met him, maybe some 30 years later on the ferry to PEI, and had a great conversation, catching up on each other's lives. My daughter, Stephanie, was with me at the time. She had gone to Dal with Andrew. Small world. Take care*

Message from **Aggi-Rose Reddin**

December 9, 2022 8:44 AM

*Linda, Anita and extended family - my sincere condolences. I very much enjoyed my discussions with Don about Glenaladale - his support was very much appreciated. I do hope your memories will bring some comfort at this difficult time.*

Message from **Helen Stewart**

December 9, 2022 8:25 AM

*My sincerest condolences on the passing of Donald. He and Barbara and family were my wonderful next door neighbours for several years when I lived at the corner of Larch and Payzant in Halifax. A wonderful family and a wonderful man. My thoughts are with those family members and dear friends he leaves to mourn. Very sincerely, Helen Stewart*

Message from **Irene Ferguson**

December 9, 2022 8:15 AM

*Sending condolences on your loss.  
Irene Ferguson*

**Message from Theresa Avery**

December 9, 2022 5:38 AM

*Linda I am so sorry to hear of Don's passing. Thoughts and prayers are with you and all the family at this very sad and difficult time in your lives God bless you all RIP Donald*

**Message from Heather Simms**

December 8, 2022 10:15 PM

*I met Don through his daughter, Katherine. My late husband (John Simms) was Katherine's father-in-law. Don was always very welcoming when we visited his home. He was a lovely man, and such a gentleman. Reading his obituary, he had many more accomplishments in his life than I ever knew. I am so sorry that he was so ill the last months of his life. He will be missed. My sincere condolences to Katherine and her family.*

**Message from Mary Crowley**

December 8, 2022 9:35 PM

*When I think of Donald, one of the first words that comes to mind is "gentleman". He was so polite. I recall being at his and Barbara's house one year for Christmas. There must have been at least 15 people there, many of them children. My aging father was one of those present and, amidst the chaos of happy Christmas chatter, my father was trying to tell a story. He stopped at one point, looked at me and asked "Is anyone listening?" From his place at the head of the table, Donald said "I am, sir." That was Donald—attentive, concerned for others, respectful. He will be greatly missed.*

**Message from Meaghan**

December 8, 2022 1:25 PM

*I was very lucky to benefit from Donald's kindness and generosity in my uni days. We lived in his house in Halifax and shared many meals and good memories. When I think of Donald I always remember his go-to meal: George Foreman chicken, rice, and frozen peas. Simple yet delightful. He was an excellent person and he will be sorely missed.*

Message from **John Champ**

December 10, 2022 10:35 AM

*Don and I have been great friends since our days at UNB...our deepest sympathy to all of Don's family on their loss.  
John and Joan Champ.*