In Memoriam: Owen Hertzman

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Former Dalhousie University Professor Owen Hertzman died Wednesday, September 4, 2013. Owen taught at Dal for 13 years where he initiated a program in Environmental Studies.

Owen is remembered as an inspiration to his students and a passionate advocate for the environment. He was a dedicated teacher and went out of his way to help students learn and grow as individuals. Those who knew him remember his somewhat quirky ways, his unending kindness, and his whole-hearted desire to make the world a better place. His environmental efforts are honoured through Dal's Owen Hertzman Prize, granted annually to an Environmental Science student who is deemed to have contributed significantly to Environmental Science school life.

While in Nova Scotia, Owen took part in research projects that included flying in research planes through the heart of nor'easters, "some of the most unpredictable and mysterious weather systems on the planet", emerging bright-eyed and ready to go back for more.

Born in Vancouver, Owen studied Engineering Physics at UBC and then completed a Master's in Climatology at UBC and a PhD in Atmospheric Science at the University of Washington.

Owen was the elder son of Eileen and the late Victor Hertzman. Owen is predeceased by his brother, Clyde, and is survived by his wife, Marguerite Frost, and his step-family: Jane and Brian Forward (Melanie, Michael, Gabby, Noah and Luke), Mary and Ken Leopold (Nikki), Margaret Hall (Sean and Eamonn), Clyde's partner, Marcy Cohen and Clyde's family, Amos and Caitlin Hertzman (Bennett and Posey), Emily Hertzman and Nyian Tedy (Carmela), Eric and Darlene Hertzman (Pascal).

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the BC Cancer Agency or the charity of your choice would be appreciated. At Owen's request, there will be a cremation but no service, although a gathering for family and friends was held on Sunday, September 8.

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