

In Memoriam - Dr. Henry (Harry) Whittier

Dalhousie University Announcements <DAL-ANNOUNCEMENT@LISTS.DAL.CA>

on behalf of

Public Relations Formal Email Notice

Fri 9/23/2011 10:25 AM

To: DAL-ANNOUNCEMENT@LISTS.DAL.CA <DAL-ANNOUNCEMENT@LISTS.DAL.CA>

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Henry (Harry) Whittier (1924-2011)

Harry Whittier came to Dalhousie's Department of English in 1961, having completed his PhD at Yale in 1958. Born in Boston, Harry graduated from the United States Naval Academy and served twelve years in the US Navy before beginning graduate studies in English Literature. His publications include critical studies, *Echoes in the Mirror: Facets of Reflection in "Don Juan,"* (1990), *"As a Man Is,"* a study of William Blake's "Milton," and a novel, *The Other Watch* (2000). Like Herman Melville, one of the authors he knew well, Harry's approach to literature included a strong sense of its roots in lived experience, and he carried about him a whiff of things nautical, both from his youth, and from the sailboat that he enjoyed for many summers on Bras d'Or Lake in Cape Breton. Passionate about great writing, as a teacher Harry stood as an example for his students of how literary and lived experience can enrich and augment each other. His classes typically featured extended, searching examinations of English, American, and European classics, and he was a memorable figure for many students. After his retirement from Dalhousie in 1989 he continued teaching in various capacities until very recently. He was also an enthusiastic amateur musician. He is survived by his wife, Pearl, his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A memorial service will be held in the University of King's College Chapel on **Friday September 23 at 2 p.m.**