

IN MEMORY OF
GODFREY
HEATHCOTE

Obituary for Godfrey Heathcote



John Godfrey Heathcote
M.A., M.B. B.Chir., Ph.D., FRCPC
August 19, 1950 - March 20, 2024

Godfrey Heathcote, who has died at the age of 73 years on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at his home in Bayfield, Ontario, was born in St. Helens, Lancashire, England, the only son of John G. and Ethel Heathcote.

Predeceased by both parents, he is survived by, Jackelyn, his wife of 43 years, his daughters, Victoria (Daryl) of London, Ontario, Joanna (James) of Kemptville, Ontario and Alexandra (Nick) of Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, together with three granddaughters, Claire, Anna and Madison.

Educated at West Park Catholic Grammar School, St. Helens, St. John's College, Cambridge University and University College Hospital, London, Godfrey enjoyed a long academic career spanning metabolic medicine, connective tissue biochemistry, anatomical pathology and medical laboratory administration. He was an internationally recognised expert in the pathology and developmental biology of the eye and served as Chairman of the Canadian Ophthalmic Pathology Society (1999-2014) and President of the British Association for Ophthalmic Pathology (2016-2019). He was Chairman of the Pathology Departments at Western (1996-2000) and Dalhousie Universities (2004-2017) and later Senior Medical Director of the Provincial Pathology & Laboratory Medicine Program in Nova Scotia.

He and Jackelyn retired to Bayfield, Ontario in 2019, where Godfrey became immersed in village life, serving as Secretary of the Bayfield Historical Society and Warden of Trinity St. James Anglican Church. He approached his death with equanimity, secure in the love of his family and his deeply rooted Anglo-Catholic faith.

The Funeral Service will be held at Trinity St. James Anglican Church, 10 Keith Crescent, Bayfield, Ontario on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, charitable donations to the Bayfield Forgotten Felines or the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides would be appreciated. Together we would like to thank his wonderful friends and the palliative care team who cared for him with compassion and laughter and helped make his difficult journey easier.

Non Dolet

“Our friends go with us as we go
Down the long path where beauty wends
Where all we love foregathers, so

Why should we fear to join our friends?"

Oliver St. John Gogarty

Irish poet and physician

(1878 – 1957)

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