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In Memoriam: Dr. Allan Pyesmany

Posted by Faculty of Medicine on April 4, 2023 in [In Memoriam](#)

The Faculty of Medicine and Dalhousie University are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of former faculty member, Dr. Allan Frederick Pyesmany, on March 28, 2023.

Born May 6, 1939, in Radway, Alberta to Fred and Pauline (Zadunayski). Dr. Pyesmany began his education in a two-room schoolhouse, taught by his aunt and uncle, until he moved to Edmonton to attend St. Anthony's College and later pursued his Bachelor of Science. He attended the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Alberta, receiving his M.D. in 1961 at the age of 22. He completed residencies in Edmonton and Montreal before his fellowship in Pediatric Hematology Oncology in Los Angeles.

Dr. Pyesmany began his career at the IWK Children's Hospital in Halifax, Nova Scotia in the summer of 1968, where he met a nurse named Ann Johnson, and remained until his retirement in 2002. Dr. Pyesmany began his career at a time when most children died of their cancer, and he worked tirelessly with families with hope, dignity, and empathy. Dr. Pyesmany was one of the first visionaries, networking with colleagues and working within the rigour of research trials to advance the understanding and improve the outcome of childhood cancer. His legacy includes thousands of people living throughout the world as long-term cancer survivors. He was an educator and mentor to many young physicians, and his contributions to the field will continue to impact patients and families for years to come.

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