

REMEMBERING H. Lyell Rodger

June 10, 1927 - June 22, 2015

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Lyell was born in Quill Lake, Sask. to Bertha and Harry Rodger. In 1937, Lyell, his 3

brothers, and his parents packed up all their belongings and moved to "the land of milk

and honey" aka the Cowichan Valley. His lifelong obsession with learning had its roots

in Duncan Elementary, Bench Elementary, Cobble Hill High School before moving to

Victoria College (at Craigdarroch Castle in 1945/46), Victoria Normal School in 1953/54

(now Camosun College), and eventually U.B.C. where he graduated with a BA in

Education in 1960. His first teaching position was at Fairbridge Elementary where his

young family was housed in the former dormitories of the Prince of Wales Fairbridge

Farm School. Lyell's career spanned 33 years and took him from teaching positions at

George E. Bonner Secondary and Cowichan High School to administrative positions at

Central Elementary and Bert Bowes Secondary in Ft. St. John and ultimately to Prince

George where he was Principal at Duchess Park Secondary for 9 years before retiring

after 16 years as Principal of Prince George Senior Secondary in 1987. Aside from learning, Lyell's other passion was sports. He played semi pro baseball in the early 50's, raised and showed quarter horses in Prince George, and avidly played golf his

entire life. Retirement brought Lyell and his second wife, Hope Campbell Robinson

back to Vancouver Island in 1993 settling in Parksville's Morningstar Golf development.

Until the end of his life Lyell lived each moment to its fullest and although his body failed

him his mind was ever curious. Lyell was predeceased by his first wife Margaret in

2012 and his second wife Hope in 2013. Carrying his memory forward are his daughter

Patricia Hill (Byron), son Laurie (Barb), son Kevin (Kim), step-son Ian Robinson

(Margie), step-son Glen, 6 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren, sisters-in-law Alice

Rodger and Joyce Rodger, numerous friends, and legions of students he helped guide

through their educational lives.

