

Paul Edward Buteux

Paul Edward Buteux passed away peacefully on Saturday morning, March 10. He is survived by his wife, Iona, step-son Julian, daughter-in-law Julie, grand-daughter Charlotte, Jeff, and his trusted friend Cassie. He is pre-deceased by his father, Edward William and mother, Phyllis Eileen.

Paul was born on April 25, 1939 in Walthamstow East, Essex (north London). A lifelong Spurs fan, he attended the London School of Economics, where he received his Doctorate of Philosophy in International Relations. In 1963, he took up a position in the Department of Political Studies at the University of Manitoba, from which he retired as a Full Professor on December 31, 2008.

Paul had a distinguished academic career. He was Canada's leading scholar on nuclear weapons and nuclear deterrence and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). His books on the Politics of Nuclear Consultation in NATO, and Theatre Nuclear Force Modernization in NATO remain the pre-eminent texts on the subject in academic and policy circles. In addition, Paul contributed chapters in numerous edited volumes, and published many articles in the leading journals on a wide range of international relations and Canadian defence policy issues.

Reflecting his commitment to academic excellence, education, and a learned public debate on defence and security issues, in 1986 Paul created the Research Programme in Strategic Studies with a grant from the Department of National Defence's Military and Strategic Studies Programme. His work was recognized by the University in 1992 with the establishment of the Centre for Defence and Security Studies, in which he served as Director until 2006. Through his efforts and initiative, the Programme and the Centre established the University as a leading voice on international, strategic and Canadian defence issues.

For Paul, the centerpiece of his academic career was students. He always had time to speak with students and provide advice for their academic studies, as well as their careers, even years after the students had left the university. Thanks to his commitment, many of his students have gone on to successful careers in academia, the private sector and government. He was especially proud of the number of his students who have gone on to successful careers in National Defence.

As part of this commitment, in 1985, Paul created the Annual Political Studies Graduate Student Conference on International Relations: the longest standing student conference of its kind in Canada, now in its 29th year. His purpose was to provide valuable experience to students in organizing an international conference, and exposing them to the leading national and international scholars and policy-makers. Believing that education did not stop at the door of the university, Paul hosted the conference-ending social gathering at his home to enable students to engage directly with all the participants. Over the years, hundreds of volunteer

students benefited immensely from their experience, thanks to Paul's dedication and hospitality.

Paul was one of the original members of University College, and a dedicated member of the Senior Common Room. He always believed that scholarship was more than just an obsession for one's narrow area of specialization. For Paul, the Senior Common Room provided the opportunity to exchange views and debate issues amongst scholars from all disciplines. He also always took the effort to invite students into the Common Room to expose them to the proper academic life.

Paul in the last number of years developed a passion for horse racing, and upon his retirement, dedicated himself to this passion. He was the co-owner of numerous race horses, and a regular at Assiniboia Downs. In his last years, he greatly enjoyed the opportunity to attend the Kentucky Derby and the Preakness.

Paul will be greatly missed by his family, university colleagues, former students, and friends at Assiniboia Downs. To honour Paul, a reception will be held in the Senior Common Room, University College, on Friday, March 16 between 3:00 and 5:00 pm.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Paul Buteux Graduate Student Conference and Research Fund, University of Manitoba. The Fund, established within the Centre for Defence and Security Studies, will provide graduate students with the opportunity to attend conferences or support research in areas directly related to Paul's work.