

MAY, Arthur William [UNTD CABOT '55 U-48465] (1937 - 2014) - Age: 76



Passed peacefully away at St. John's on January 30, 2014, aged 76. Predeceased by his parents, William James (2001) and Florence, nee Dawe (1993). Left with a lifetime of loving memories are his wife Sonia (Streeter); four children: Stephen (Ann Murphy), Heather, Maria (Gerald Crane) and Douglas (Lynn); five grandchildren: Timothy and Nikola May; Julia and Charlotte May Hobden, and Sonia Ann May. Also left to mourn are his sisters Effie "Dolly" Davis (Bill) and Carla Hiscock (Geoff), sister-in-law Renata Keats (Jim), brother-in-law Wendell Streeter (Shirley), and a wide circle of extended family and friends. Born and raised in St. John's, Newfoundland, and educated at Bishop Feild College, Memorial University and McGill University, Dr. May began a long career in marine science and public service in 1958 at the Fisheries Biological Station in St. John's. He served as a federal Deputy Minister with the Government of Canada, having been appointed to that position in the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (1982-1985); was president of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (1986-1990), and served as President and Vice Chancellor of Memorial University from 1990-99. During his career, Dr. May held many national and international appointments, including first Chairman of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO), first Canadian Commissioner of the Canada/U.S. Pacific Salmon Commission, Canadian representative on the NATO Science Committee, Chairman of the Association of Atlantic Universities, and member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC). In addition, he chaired the selection committee for the Canadian Model Forests Program and served on the Prime Minister's National Advisory Board on Science and Technology. Dr. May was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in December 1995. Since retirement, he served on numerous boards and committees. Resting at Carnell's Funeral Home, 329 Freshwater Road on Friday, January 31 from 7-9 p.m.; Saturday, February 1 from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m., and Sunday, February 2 from 2-4 p.m. The funeral service will take place Monday, February 3, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. from the Anglican Cathedral of St. John the Baptist with interment to follow at the Anglican Cemetery on Forest Road. Donations in his memory may be made to the Memorial University Scholarship Fund or a charity of one's choice. To send a message of condolence or to sign the memorial guest book, please visit www.carnells.com.

Premier Expresses Condolences on Passing of Dr. Arthur May

The Honourable Tom Marshall, Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador, expressed condolences to the family of the late Dr. Arthur May, a former President and Vice-Chancellor of Memorial University, who passed away earlier today.

“Dr. May served as President and Vice-Chancellor of Memorial from 1990 to 1999 where, under his leadership, the university experienced significant growth in student enrolment, saw the expansion of Grenfell College to offer multiple full degree programs, and the Marine Institute joined the university,” said Premier Marshall. “Today, as we mourn his loss, we recognize the outstanding contributions Dr. May made to Memorial University, post-secondary education, the youth of Newfoundland and Labrador and to our province and country.”

Dr. May was educated at Memorial University, where he received Bachelor of Science (Honours) and Masters of Science degrees, and McGill University, where he received a PhD in marine sciences. His professional career included pioneering work as a fisheries scientist, a fisheries manager and an international negotiator. Dr. May was Deputy Minister of the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans from 1982 to 1985 and president of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada from 1986 to 1990.

Following his retirement from Memorial in 1999, Dr. May served as chair of the ACOA Atlantic Innovation Fund Advisory Board, was a member of the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation, helped organize many successful Memorial Alumni events, and he contributed directly to the broadening of educational experiences of Memorial University students by sponsoring, with his wife Sonia, an annual scholarship.

In recent years Dr. May’s contributions to fisheries management and science continued through his roles as chair of One Ocean, a liaison organization established by and for the fishing and petroleum industries of Newfoundland and Labrador, and as chair of the Centre for Fisheries Ecology Research Advisory Board.

Dr. May was named Memorial's Alumnus of the Year in 1983, received an honorary degree from Memorial in 1989, and was appointed an officer of the Order of Canada in 1995. In 2003 Dr. May was honoured with the designation president emeritus of Memorial University.