



## In Memoriam

FREEMAN, Peter Leonard (1938 - 2015) Age: 77

UNTD CHIPPAWA 1955 U-25990



Peter Leonard Freeman, Q.C. was a proud member of the legal Profession. He practiced law in Winnipeg and Brandon, in the early 1960's before teaching law at the University of Manitoba for a short stint, and then teaching at the Faculty of Law, University of Alberta. He was proud of the U of A. He became very active with the Faculty Club, serving as its President for a stint. He was active with the faculty of the Law School, joining forces as a founding member of the Legal Education Society of Alberta. Perhaps his passion was reading because while a member of the law

faculty he studied at the University of Washington and earned his Masters degree in Library Management, and took on the role of Librarian at the U of A Law Library, and then Librarian at the Supreme Court of Canada. From there he expanded his administrative duties to become the Chief Librarian for the University of Alberta as a whole, taking on responsibility for physical expansion, employees, and senior administration within the University. These accomplishments were at the same time as he raised 3 kids with his beautiful wife Barbara, coached hockey, and was elected a School Trustee in the City of St. Albert. The story continued to Calgary in 1989 where he took on the role as Executive Director for the Law Society of Alberta. This may have been his most challenging role - having to balance intelligent and active members, along with a Government regulator, and reporting to a board of lawyers - because, as a family, we could tell he was enjoying himself. And again, during this period he continued to give of himself, becoming active with St. Mary's University/College, and becoming Chair of their Board of Governors in early 2000. As one would expect, none of this would be possible without a very supportive spouse. Peter and Barbara celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2013. They met while Peter was in University, and married shortly thereafter. Their love withstood moves to five different cities, and ending with retirement in Edmonton. He will also be fondly remembered by Barbara's siblings, Elenor, Chris, Mary, Jim and Helen.

Peter Freeman first joined the Faculty in 1968. In 1970, after completing his Master of Law Librarianship, Peter Freeman continued teaching and was appointed Head of the Law Library, a position he held for ten years. Under his direction, the library experienced significant growth and became Canada's second largest academic law library. In 1980, Mr. Freeman was appointed the Chief Librarian for the Supreme Court of Canada. He returned to Edmonton in 1982 to become the Director and Chief Librarian for the University of Alberta. He served on many university committees and on numerous provincial and national educational and library committees. In 1989, Mr. Freeman left the university to become Secretary of the Law Society of Alberta, a position that he held until his retirement in 2001. Peter Freeman has been credited with helping build the strong ties that the Faculty and the Law Society have enjoyed throughout their history. In 2002, the Peter Freeman, Q.C. Bursary for Indigenous Students in Law was established in his honour by members of the Law Society and his friends.

There is no mention of Naval Service in the Obit, but Peter had 3 UNTD summers; 1956, 1957, 1958. In 1957 he was Editor-in-Chief of the White Twist. He was commissioned as a SLT RCN(R), Sen. 1 Jul '58, O-25357, attached to CHIPPAWA.

His time as Chief Librarian, Supreme Court of Canada, from 1980 - 1982, is particularly noteworthy but even more so, because in that time frame, the Registrar of the Supreme Court of Canada, was also a UNTD and also from CHIPPAWA. That would be Bernard Hofley, UNTD CHIPPAWA '49, whose passing in 1985 we have previously reported on.

So although we've never had a Supreme Court Justice as an alumnus, we did have briefly, the inner workings of the Court being handled by a couple of Untidies.

WAC  
December 29, 2017