



## Iain Garden Nicol

February 4, 2019

On February 4, 2019, Iain passed peacefully surrounded by family at Peterborough Regional Health Centre. Beloved husband of Eleanor Nicol and previously of the late Ute Nicol, loving and caring father of Roy and his wife Marcela, and Juliet and her partner Colin.

Professor of Systematic Theology at the University of Glasgow and Knox College, former Director of the Toronto School of Theology and a Minister-in-Association with St. Andrew's Church.

A memorial Service will be held at St. Andrew's Church, 73 Simcoe St., Toronto, on Sunday, February 10th. Visitation at 2 p.m., service at 3 p.m. In lieu of flowers, if desired, donations to the ALS Society ([als.ca](http://als.ca)) and St. Andrew's Church would be appreciated.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 10. 2:00 PM (ET)

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church  
73 Simcoe Street  
Toronto, ON M5J 1W9 (CA)

## Memorial Service

FEB 10. 3:00 PM (ET)

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church  
73 Simcoe Street  
Toronto, ON M5J 1W9 (CA)

# Tribute Wall

PH

“ *Dear Eleanor,  
Tom and I send you our most heartfelt sympathy and prayers. We enjoyed having Iain as a professor at Knox College. I remember many Friday mornings dropping by his office - he always made time for a chat. I also have fond memories of being invited to have Thanksgiving dinner with you my first year at Knox and how kind you both were to include those of us away from home. And, as Tom says, no one read the communion liturgy better or with more meaning than Iain - it was amazing. We pray God will bless you with comfort.*

*With love and prayers,*

*Paula (Ryan) and Tom Hamilton*

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**Paula Hamilton** - February 21, 2019 at 12:54 PM

BD

“Iain was my Professor of Systematic Theology at Knox College. He was more than that, though. He was my friend. He baptized my son Jonathan, who also studied theology at Knox and became a Presbyterian minister. Then he and Ute and their two children spent a month in Stirling in our manse as he replaced me in my student charge so I could take my family on a much-needed vacation. He had a glowing warmth, a wonderful wit, a keen intellect. And he wanted me to continue my studies and do a doctorate in theology. I wanted to do it too, but my wife at the time threatened to leave me if I didn't take a charge, and without a wife at my side, she reasoned, how could I continue in the ministry? Just one of many deflections and detours my life has taken, but the memory of the invitation he urged me to accept is still sweet. A few years later, I went to hear him speak in Halifax. I don't know if he knew I would be there, but in his sermon he quoted something from one of my papers, and gave me the credit. What a tower of a man he was, and I am more than pleased to have been graced, however briefly, to live a part of my life in his company, and under his influence. Would that God grant us more people of his stature! Eleanor and Juliet and Roy -- please accept my deepest sympathies.

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**Bruce Dennis** - February 14, 2019 at 06:17 AM

JL

“I fondly remember Iain as a long-time colleague in the Department of Theology at TST and as my predecessor as Director of the TST. He was a gentle man, with a quiet but sharp sense of humour, and I much appreciate his leadership of TST and the competence and perspectives that he brought to his task as a theological educator. My sympathies to you, Eleanor. May the Lord bring him rest and peace.

*Jean-Marc Laporte*

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**Jean-Marc Laporte** - February 12, 2019 at 12:08 PM

BT

“ *I never had the pleasure of knowing Iain, but will never forget the love in your voice as you spoke of him in our conversations. May you feel the peace of knowing he rests at last and will always be remembered. Take care of yourself through this time of adjustment and know that you are in my prayers. Peace and blessings, Betty Turcott*

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**B. Turcott** - February 09, 2019 at 06:04 PM

JE

“ We have known Iain as family friends since he and his family arrived in Canada in 1976, very shortly after our own arrival; we also had two children of much the same ages as Juliet and Roy who attended the same school. In those early days we shared much laughter (amplified by a few wee drams!) and some of the frustrations of adjusting to life in a new country. But Iain and Ute entered upon their lives in Canada with wholehearted enthusiasm!

We remember Iain for his great personal warmth and compassion, his utter integrity and ethical seriousness, his wit and humour, and his ability to tell and appreciate a good story. Nothing exemplified the qualities of the man more than the loving care he provided for Ute and the children during the years of her devastating illness, while continuing in his demanding roles at the University.

While we had continued to exchange Christmas greetings and family news, we did not really catch up with Iain and Eleanor until we visited them in their condominium after our return to Toronto. Despite his obvious health struggles, the essential Iain was very much on display as we recalled "old times". True to his Scottish origins he was delighted to tell us that our lunching restaurant was "good value", by which he said he meant "cheap"!

We shall very much miss a dear and old friend. Our sincere condolences to Juliet, Roy, and the rest of the family for their loss of such a good man and devoted father.

John and Pat Evans

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John Evans - February 08, 2019 at 10:55 AM

NP

“ Juliet and Family - I'm so very sorry for the loss of your Dad. He sounds like he was a wonderful person and will be missed by you all. Thinking of you.  
Nicole Paquet

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**Nicole Paquet** - February 08, 2019 at 09:01 AM

JF

“ Eleanor, I have some special memories of time spent during our connection with the NUCW. I met iain and it was great! You suggested we keep in touch .....I'm trying. Therefore at this time of great personal loss, may the arms of Jesus reach out and hold you secure in your faith , knowing you will meet again because of resurrection hope  
Blessings of God's peace and love  
Judy Foster  
Former president  
BC Conference UCW

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**judy foster** - February 08, 2019 at 01:33 AM

IH

“ Think of you often and remember how iain was so much a part of our time at Toronto Conference UCW. He was so attentive and interested at that time. May you have comfort to know that he is now at peace. Thoughts and prayers for you and your family. Bill & Isabel Hewitson

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**Isabel Hewitson** - February 07, 2019 at 10:16 PM

PW

“ Eleanor, on behalf of the NUCW Alumnae, I extend our sincere condolences on the passing of your beloved husband, Iain. May God's love embrace you and your family at this time of loss.  
Blessings  
Pat Whitton

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**Pat Whitton** - February 07, 2019 at 07:19 PM

MB

“ I HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF MEETING IAIN AS A MEMBER OF ST.ANDREW'S CHURCH . HE AND ELEANOR USED TO ALWAYS SIT BEHIND ME AND AS SUCH WE OFTEN TALKED AND GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER. I LOVED HIS SCOTTISH ACCENT AND HIS KINDNESS AND ABOVE ALL HIS BIBLE KNOWLEDGE AND HIS VIEWS AS A SCHOLAR BUT ABOVE ALL AS A BROTHER IN CHRIST.IN SEVERAL CASES I BENEFITTED BY HIS INSIGHT IN THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES .I AM SURE HE WAS A BLESSING TO MANY, MAY OUR LORD COMFORT ELEANOR AND HIS CHILDREN AS HE WILL LEAVE A BIG EMPTY PLACE BUT HIS LIFE IS A CELEBRATION OF THE JOY OF FAITH AND CHRISTIAN HOPE.

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**MARC BUIST** - February 07, 2019 at 01:21 PM

JL

*Miss you both, Iain and Eleanor!*  
*J.T. Laporte*

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**Jocelyn Thomas Laporte** - April 20, 2023 at 08:49 AM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of  
Iain Garden Nicol.



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February 07, 2019 at 09:22 AM