



Professor Joseph Bevan Robertson Whitney

September 2, 2016

No obituary found for this tribute.

Tribute Wall

KM

“ Dear Mrs Whitney and Family,

Fondly remembered as Mr. Whitney, His teaching method was innovative and way ahead of its time : Study text book at home, quiz at class. He made it competitive and lots of fun. We learn more, and Remember More.

Imagine, many years later, the same method and self discipline was applied during my academic studies during my graduate schools for M.Sc (1973-1975) and M.B.A. (1975-1978)

Always approachable, humble and kind, he was ONLY addressed as "Mr. Whitney" (when he was a full professor in UoT with a Ph.D.) during St. Mark's School Alumni activities in Toronto in the '90s and beyond that he graced and honored us with his presence.

I, and fellow St. Markens who were lucky to be taught by "Mr. Whitney" were enriched.

You will be most fondly remembered for your legacy.

Rest in Peace.

*King Hei (Michael) MAN, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.B.A., A.P.M.R.
St. Mark's School, Hong Kong (1958 - 1963)*

King Hei (Michael) MAN - October 10, 2016 at 08:50 AM

RC

“ *Diana and family*

Deeply saddened by the passing of my favourite all time academic leader. I remember taking that first China course in the basement of SS Hall and all the stories Joe related to us and of course the daily reading of Chairman Mao Little Red Book to set the stage for discussion. I still have the paper from the course - it was that interesting and demanding but I learned so much. Joe introduced us all to many concepts and ideas so in many ways he lives on in all our hearts and minds.

I took his courses and he was my research paper advisor. Later he hired me as a sessional lecturer for an environmental management course in the Dept. 1990's.

I remember him at aerobics classes in Hart House in the 1980's and setting up UTAGA with Dick Baine in the 1990's.

His encouragement in the 70's for the undergrad community to take an active role in the department was a legacy that lives on.

I was most surprised when he showed up for my retirement get together after 33 years in the Ontario Public Service.

I have and always will carry the ideas, thoughts and inspirations that Joe gave me personally throughout my career and life.

Roger Clarke T71 T72

Roger Clarke - September 23, 2016 at 10:27 PM

JM

“ Dear Diana:

Becky and I are saddened to learn of Joe's death. I thought he would live forever! Meeting you and Joe and getting to know you on the Iceland trip was the highlight of that trip. We remember Joe's enthusiastic and humorous comments on the Holdor Laxness novels he was reading, which inspired us to read them, too.

We will miss him. Our thoughts are with you. Best wishes.

Jack McCaffrey

Jack McCaffrey - September 19, 2016 at 01:26 PM

MK

“ Dear Mrs. Whitney,

We are very sad to learn of the passing of Professor Joseph Whitney. A great and energetic mentor with good sense of humor, he will be fondly remembered by us St. Mark's School students whom he taught and took us to field trips during his early years in Hong Kong. On behalf of our Alumni Association here in Ontario, please accept our deepest condolences to you and your family. May Professor Whitney rest in peace.

*Miranda Kwan
President
St. Mark's School Alumni Association (Ontario)*

Miranda Kwan - September 13, 2016 at 01:01 PM

AM

“ Dear Diana and family,

I'm saddened to hear of Joe's passing today. It was such a pleasure to work with him on the UTAGA committee all the years I was there. He made me laugh, provided such insightful conversations, and was just such a warm person to be around. My parents really enjoyed meeting you and Joe on the GeoTrips, and I was always so happy when Joe and yourself were there.

If there's anything I can do during this difficult time, please let me know.

Condolences with all my heart,

Andrew

(the alumni coordinator at geography and planning until 2015)

Andrew Malcolm - September 12, 2016 at 02:31 PM

JS

“ Dear Diane,

I knew Joe mainly through Senior College events, especially the College Group that sponsored a Syrian Refugee. You and Joe did a remarkably thorough job in getting information, organizing people and conducting meetings in a fair, open and effective manner. I found Joe to be a model of the scholar deeply engaged with people and the world. He will be missed. To you and Joe's family I send my deepest condolences.

Jack Stevenson

Jack Stevenson - September 11, 2016 at 03:24 PM

BM

“ Dear Diana,
I was greatly saddened to learn of Joe’s death. It has been only a few months since the last Senior College event, and he looked fine then, and there was no apparent sign of any illness, and certainly not serious enough to keep him off his bike! Over the last few years that I have had the privilege to know him, I had been impressed with his humanity and his sensitivity, especially to the wider world, and considered him a kindred spirit. It would indeed feel strange not to see him around our Senior College events. And for that reason alone, I would hope that you would find time in future to occasionally drop by at one of our events, and help keep our memory of him alive.
Please accept my sincere condolences.
Bibhu Mohanty

Bibhu Mohanty - September 09, 2016 at 11:57 PM

RL

“ Dear Diana and family:
I was saddened to learn of Joe's passing and I will cherish good memories of his warmth and intelligence, both from our time in China together and from his fine work on African research issues. He will be missed.
Richard Lee, Anthropology

Richard Borshay Lee - September 08, 2016 at 02:09 PM

MK

“ I have known Joe for many years, but only got to know him well since we both retired. He has been one of the liveliest and most thoughtful members of Senior College. He was generous with his time, was full of ideas, and always made an important contribution. Usually, when I arrived for a meeting, he was already locking his bike to a post. He was not there this morning. I will miss him.

Martin Klein - September 08, 2016 at 01:34 PM