



## **Richard B. Stein – A Life Well Lived**

### **Remembering our husband and father**

Dr. Richard (Dick) B. Stein. Dick is remembered by friends, family and colleagues as a decent man who treated everyone with respect, fairness and kindness. He attended MIT and Oxford University both on full scholarship. In 1968 he moved to Edmonton with his wife Sue and young children Ellie and Eric. Once there, Dick helped build the department of physiology at the University of Alberta. He was a professor at U of A for 50 years before retiring in June 2018. Papers from his final projects on Parkinson's Disease are still winding their way to publication.



Dick was proud of his mentorship of generations of neuroscientists. Dick had the vision that multidisciplinary research was needed to answer difficult questions. He co-founded the Neuroscience group now the Neuroscience and Mental Health Institute at the University of Alberta which supports over 150 researchers. His research and inventions have helped thousands with neurologic and mobility challenges.

Dick was also proud of his family. Losing his own parents at age 16, he threw himself into parenting doing fun activities every weekend. As well, he enjoyed ballroom dancing with Sue and wildflower photography. He jogged, rode or walked to work almost every day of his career. He enjoyed cross country skiing and introduced it to many of the foreign students working with him. Dick and Sue travelled to almost 100 countries and Dick said recently that they had had a good and interesting life together.

During the past several years Dick has been increasingly limited by Parkinson's Disease and associated conditions. As a resident of the Edmonton General Continuing Care Centre during the past 2 years, he has received love and care from the staff on 5AB. They have become our extended family and we thank them for their kindness and devotion. During COVID they have gone over and above risking their own safety to keep our family connected.

An amazing group of former students worked as a team to support Dick and the family over the past 2 ½ years. They enabled Dick to keep walking including outside walks to see the river valley and brought him homemade gluten free cookies. They helped Sue and Dick create a ballroom dance routine which was presented at the Edmonton General in March 2019. You can watch this inspiring performance at <https://www.thevitalbeat.ca/news/couples-dance-performance-captures-lifetime-love/>

The "Dream Team" as we call them have supported our family until Dick's last day and beyond. Thank you to Dirk Everaert, Su Ling Chong, Jaynie Yang, Jacques Bobet and Kelvin Jones.

When the COVID pandemic led to a facility lockdown, Dick was isolated from friends and family for 3 months. We wondered if he would survive. But he did survive, never complaining. He relished his phone as a connection to the outside world. The lockdown lifted on July 23rd and we had three months together taking Dick outside for visits. When COVID hit the EGCCC, Dick became ill within days and tested positive for COVID. He fought for several days longer than expected but succumbed on Tuesday November 3rd.

We look forward to having a ceremony to celebrate his life sometime in the future. If you would like to share some of your memories of Dick with his family please email Ellie at [cdnpsych@gmail.com](mailto:cdnpsych@gmail.com)

Thinking of others until the end, Dick's wish in recent years was to create a fund to support future neuroscientists. Donations may be made to the "University of Alberta" noting your donation is made in memory of Dr. Richard Stein to support the **Richard B Stein Neuroscience Graduate Student Fund**.

Mail: Office of Memorial and Tribute Giving | 3-501, 10230 Jasper Ave NW | Edmonton AB T5J 4P6  
Phone: 780.492.7587

Online: <http://uabgive.ca/RStein>

## Richard B Stein Neuroscience Graduate Student Fund

### ABOUT THIS FUND

This fund will be awarded to students registered in any year of the PhD program in the Department of Physiology or the Neuroscience and Mental Health Institute. Preference will be given to students doing research in the area of neuroscience.

For further inquiries, please contact the Office of Advancement. **TF**

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