

This is the obituary as printed in the Toronto Star on Saturday, February 19th, 2005

SUTHERLAND, LYNETTE (LYN)  
ELIZABETH, BA, MD, PhD

Dr. Lyn Sutherland died of cancer at home on Wednesday, February 16, 2005, in her 88th year. A descendant of Irish immigrants who settled in Toronto in the 1820s, Lyn was the third generation born in the city. Born May 11, 1917 to the late Laura McDonald and Charles Thompson Roddy, Lyn earned a BA in Biological and Medical Science at the University of Toronto (UoT) and began her study of Medicine in 1933. In her third year, her mother fell ill with cancer. Lyn and her classmate and life-long friend, Dr. Lillian Lome, spent much of their year in caring for Mrs. Roddy. After her death, Lyn dropped out of university and worked as a chemist.

In 1938, she married James (Jim) Walter Sutherland, "the boy next door" whom she had known since grade school. They had eight children.

Lyn said her greatest achievement was the fact that her family survived with so little money. Part of the income came from her work in a variety of jobs, including credit investigator, boarding housekeeper, canning factory and hospital cafeteria worker. In the early 1950s, Lyn was hired by the Blood Bank Services of the Canadian Red Cross in Hamilton, Ontario and earned her registered technician diploma, along with other certificates. Impressed by her capabilities, her supervisors encouraged her return to Medicine at UoT, where she enrolled in second year. She was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Honour Medical Society at year-end, but declined the honour because of the membership fee.

"I told them that, if I had \$30, I would have bought shoes for my kids," she said. Her fee was paid by the late Ray Farquharson, Professor of Medicine, and Lyn received her membership certificate in 1958. She proudly wore her AOA pin for the rest of her life.

She graduated in 1959, at age 42. She stood third in a class of 108 and won the Pathology medal. After interning at Toronto General Hospital, Lyn began a career in scientific research at the Hospital for Sick Children, specializing in kidney function. In 1965, she earned a doctorate in Physiology and Biochemistry (UoT). She lectured in Physiology at the UoT and mentored two graduate students. She also worked briefly as a researcher at St. Joseph's Hospital.

After her research funding ended, Lyn joined a provincial program supplying doctors to underserved areas. Concerned that her career in research only qualified her to be a "rat doctor," Lyn upgraded her medical skills and, in 1971, moved to Kirkfield, Ontario, where one of her first patients was a cow. When she considered retiring, she and Jim moved to Cameron, Ontario. However, Lyn converted the garage adjoining the

house into a small medical office and continued a part-time practice. Lyn and Jim celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary three months before Jim's death in October, 1988. Although she gave up her practice in Cameron and returned to Toronto, she retained her license to practice Medicine "because it was so darned hard to get it!"

In retirement, she learned how to use a computer. Because of her interest in kidney diseases, she joined an email group whose members suffer from Bartter's or Gitelman's syndromes. She soon launched her own web site,

www.BarttersSyndrome.com, to explain how the kidney functions. Even during her final illness, she hoped to update its pages with the latest scientific information and looked forward to exchanging emails with the Yahoo! Bartter's/Gitelman's Support Group.

"Lyn brought so much knowledge, humour, love, and encouragement to us all," says group member Cindy Kerr. "She motivated us to become knowledgeable about our rare kidney diseases. She helped us so much in improving our quality of care and our quality of life. We are forever grateful. When my husband read Lyn's home page about Bartter's/Gitelman's Syndrome, he said that, for the first time, he finally felt he had an understanding of the genetic defect. She was a wonderful communicator, along with having a beautiful heart."

Lyn will be missed by daughters, Sara Jane (Robert Brooks) and Irena Laura (Gerry Singleton, who lovingly nursed her throughout her final illness), sons Charles Roddy (Dale Farrelly), Walter James (Lynn Amott), Michael James (Sylviane Maringka), Joseph Loren (Michelle Woods) and Ian Jerome, and by her former daughter-in-law, Carol Sampson.

She was predeceased by her son, Robert Francis (1975) and by her sister, Harriet Rachel Kelly Macdonald. She will be remembered by 15 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Arrangements have been entrusted to The Simple Alternative. Cremation has taken place, in keeping with her directions. A Mass to celebrate her life will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 12, 2005, at Annunciation Church, 3 Combermere Dr. (on Victoria Park Ave., one block south of Ellesmere Ave.). Interment will be in the family plot at St. James Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Lyn's memory may be made to a charity of your choice or to the Freeman Centre for Palliative Care, North York General Hospital, who helped us to fulfill Lyn's wish to die at home.

The family offers special thanks to Dr. Stanley Teitelbaum and Virginia Clarke Weir from the Freeman Centre for their compassion and support; to the Victorian Order of Nurses, especially Colleen Ramsden; to Carol Thompson of the Community Care Access Centre; and to the Personal Support Workers.

## In celebration of the life of

Lynette Elizabeth Sutherland, BA, MD, PhD



1917-2005

Funeral Mass  
at

Annunciation Catholic Church,  
3 Combermere Drive  
in Don Mills

on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2005, at 10:00am.

Commitment will be at a later date  
in the family plot at  
Saint James Cemetery, Toronto.

**THE MASS**

As a source of reference, here a brief outline of the Catholic funeral rite during Mass. A brief gathering rite serves as an introduction to the Liturgy of the Word. The Liturgy of the Eucharist follows, concluded by the Final Commendation.

**Gathering Rite**

- Gathering Song **Hymn 600**
- Opening Prayer Fr. Joselito
- Penitential Rite **Hymn 155**
- Faith of Our Fathers
- I confess ...

**Liturgy of the Word**

Not merely readings, the proclamation of the Word is an encounter with God speaking through Scripture. Thus, non-Biblical readings are not appropriate.

- Old Testament Reading Ecclesiastes 3 verses 1-11 Mary McKenna
- Responsorial Psalm Psalm 23 **Hymn 32** Evan Sutherland
- New Testament Reading II Corinthians 4 verses 14-18 & II Corinthians 5 verse 1
- Gospel Acclamation Praise to you, Lord, King of eternal Glory... **Hymn 160**
- Gospel Matthew 5 verses 1-10 Fr. Joselito
- Homily This is a reflection on the Scripture passages which have been proclaimed Fr. Joselito
- General Intercessions Prayers for the deceased, the family, and the greater good of the Church and of the world Toby Sutherland, Sylviane Maringka, Sean Sutherland

**Liturgy of the Eucharist**

“Eucharist” means *thanksgiving*, and is the sacramental encounter with God. The Liturgy of the Eucharist is the ritual action of the words of consecration: *Jesus took, blessed, broke and gave the bread and wine, his Body and Blood.*

- Preparation of the Gifts Make Me a Channel if Your Peace. **Hymn 726**
- Eucharistic Prayer This is the central prayer of the Mass, and includes the following acclamations: Fr. Joselito
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Acclamation Holy, Holy, holy **Hymn 166**
  - Memorial Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. **Hymn 167**
  - Great Amen Amen, amen, amen **Hymn 168**
  - The Lord's Prayer All
  - Prayer Fr. Joselito
  - Doxology All
  - Breaking of the Bread The bread is broken, and the cup is poured; musically, accompanied by the “Lamb of God” litany Fr. Joselito
  - Lamb of God” The Body and Blood of Christ are distributed **Hymn 171**
  - Communion
  - Hymn Panis Angelicus **Hymn 172**
  - Hymn Gerry Singleton
  - Prayer after Communion I Am the Bread of Life **Hymn 828**
  - Fr. Joselito

**THE MASS**

**Final Commendation**

Fr. Joselito

**Invitation to Prayer**

- Silent Prayer A time for individual prayer for the deceased
- Song of Farewell I Know That My Redeemer Lives **Hymn 430**
- Recessional How Great Thou Art. **Hymn 494**

**Participants**

**Family and Friends**

- Pallbearer** Irena Singleton
- Readers** Mary McKenna, Evan Sutherland, Toby Sutherland, Sylviane Maringka, Sean Sutherland
- Soloist** Gerry Singleton
- Ushers** Mike Sutherland, Kevin Sutherland, Kyla Sutherland, Callum Sutherland

**Reception and Wake**

at

**38 Welsford Gardens, Unit 501**  
**Toronto, ON**  
 (416) 441-3322



**After Mass**