

**Richard Noel Hitchman '52 C September 13, 1926 – February 15, 2016**

Richard left us February 15, 2016 after a short illness. He remained at home as was his wish. He leaves his wife, Frances and their three children, David Hitchman, Anne Hitchman, Kim Viljoen and son-in-law Hendre Viljoen.

Richard was born in Biggar, Saskatchewan, the second son of Thomas and Cecily Hitchman who emigrated from Kent in England. His father was a boilermaker for the Canadian National Railway. Growing up, mother and sons travelled west to spend many summers on Bowen Island with relatives. After high school, Richard worked on the telegraph lines from Terrace to Prince Rupert and in Flin Flon, Manitoba as a miner for the Hudson's Bay Mining and Smelting Co.

Richard graduated from the University of Saskatchewan in 1952 with Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. He then worked in the dairy industry in Saskatchewan until 1954 when he went to Peru for two years working in both the dairy industry and at the Cerro de Pasco copper mine as a hard rock miner. Upon his return to Canada he worked out of Prince George for the B.C. government as a dairy inspector covering territory from Terrace to McBride. It was there he met his future wife, Frances Nelson, and they married in 1957.

The family moved to Vancouver in 1962 and settled in North Vancouver where Richard worked for the BC government labs, then for the Business Development Bank of Canada and finally BCIT where he taught agricultural sciences and economics. He earned his Certificate in Public Administration in 1969 and was a member of the British Columbia Institute of Agrologists. Over the years, he worked as a consulting agrologist for Crippen International and Siemens Canada on CIDA projects in Lombok and Bali in Indonesia, Tegucigalpa, Honduras and Bagdad, Iraq. He was also a leader (Akela) for Boy Scouts Canada in the District of North Vancouver in the '60s and early '70s.

Richard retired from BCIT in 1991 and spent the next 15 years skiing at Mt. Washington in the winter and swimming at the local pool the rest of the year. A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, March 19, 2016 at 2 p.m. at Boal Chapel, 1505 Lillooet Road in North Vancouver. - See more at:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/vancouver/obituary.aspx?n=richard-hitchman&pid=177936457&fhid=5840#sthash.5tEtUWko.dpuf>