Dr. Willard Dougald Persson

Willard Persson was born in Brandon, Manitoba on August 7, 1917, and died on April 10, 2001, in Vancouver, British Columbia.

His grandparents arrived from Sweden in 1892 with a family of 6. Willard’s father was the only child born in Canada. Willard received his primary education at Stockholm, Saskatchewan. As a result of the time spent with his horses and dogs, he realized at a very early age that he wanted to be a veterinarian. In 1935, Willard enrolled in agriculture at the University of Manitoba. The following year, he transferred to the Ontario Veterinary College and graduated in 1940. He spent 1 year in general practice and then, in 1941, accepted a position as a veterinary inspector with the federal Department of Agriculture, Health of Animals Branch in Edmonton. He was later transferred to Vancouver. In 1947, he entered small animal practice and, in 1950, went into partnership with Dr. E.H. Sproston at the Vancouver Veterinary Hospital.

Willard was dedicated to his profession and served as president of the Canadian and British Columbia Veterinary Medical Associations and the the Vancouver Academy of Veterinary Medicine, and was awarded life memberships in these organizations. He was also a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association and was elected a Hospital Director Emeritus of the American Animal Hospital Association. His true character was summed up in the award he received in honor of his long and distinguished career: “Those of us you touched with your wisdom and guidance have received a gift, and we are better veterinarians for having known and worked with you.”

In 1952, Willard became a member of the Vancouver Rotary Club and served as a director. He was a long-time member of Oakridge United Church and loved to sing, not only during church services, but whenever and wherever there was a familiar tune playing. He was particularly fond of strumming his ukulele and engaging in ‘sing-songs’ with family and friends gathered around the player piano. Holidays in Hawaii, trips home and to conventions, and summers in Crescent Beach were his favorite times.

He enjoyed life and made the best of his health problems. Willard will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew him.

(submitted by Dr. George C. Fisher, Kempthorne, Ontario)

Dr. Charles Gordon Scott

At the John Noble Home in Brantford, Ontario on Monday, April 16, 2001, Gordon Scott, DVM, died in his 79th year. Son of the late Charles Hector Scott and Annie Mary MacLean. Beloved husband for over 55 years of Fern Scott (née Hannam). Dear father to Norman (Catharine Gilbertson), Douglas, and Laurie (Daniel Phelan) and loving grandfather to Mary. Also survived and fondly remembered by his sister Jean Davies of Regina; his brother, Robert Scott of Grande Prairie; and many nephews and nieces. Predeceased by his sister Margaret. Gordon proudly served with the RCAF during World War II as a navigator attached to RAF Squadron 101. He graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) in 1951 and practised in Brant County for over 40 years. Over the years, he employed and mentored many veterinary students from the OVC. He and Fern founded Elmscott Farm in 1957, and his passion was breeding Thoroughbred race horses. In retirement, Gordon was active with the Grand River Kiwanis Club and was honorary president of the Brant Animal Aid Foundation. In keeping with Gordon’s wishes, cremation has taken place and a private family service was held. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Parkinson Foundation of Canada or the charity of your choice would be appreciated.

(submitted by Daniel F. Phelan, Toronto, Ontario)

On behalf of The Canadian Veterinary Journal and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association sincere sympathies are expressed to the families, colleagues, and friends of those persons listed in this column. Death announcements and obituaries are printed on a regular basis. Notification of deaths should be sent to: Kimberley Allen-McGill, Manager, Journals, Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, 339 Booth Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1R 7K1; e-mail: kallen@cvma-acvm.org.