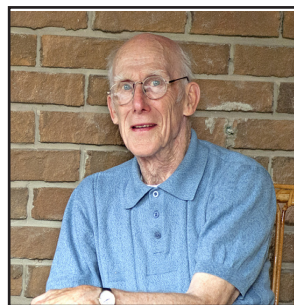


Stuart Dixon - insect physiologist, Unitarian chaplain, father of three and great friend to many - passed away this past February. Stuart was best known to those of us in the entomological community as a gifted and inspiring teacher, and fondly remembered by my cohort of University of Guelph graduates as the man who made insect physiology interesting (especially to my wife Christine, who became his last graduate student, graduating a year before he retired). Nobody could bring Wigglesworth to life like Professor Dixon! He continued to maintain contact with his friends in the entomological community until the end. He could always be counted on for an insightful and eloquently expressed opinion, good conversation and genuine interest in how and what you were doing. Aside from being among the broadest and most widely read entomologists I have known,

Stuart was an incredibly kind man with a genuine concern for others. Along with other bits of wit and wisdom with which he peppered his discussions (“ask the insect”), he used to say “to be a good scientist, you must also be a good person”. And that he was.

Although he never spoke much of his early days, Stuart came up through the “school of hard knocks”, born in Hamilton to an impoverished family that endured considerable hardship. He apparently had a knack for science (especially chemistry) early in life, but he also had another calling and entered the Toronto Bible College at the age of 17. Three years later he was a student at McMaster University, reading Darwin and working in restaurants to pay for tuition. Soon after graduation, while working at a factory to pay off his loans, Stuart received an offer of employment from the Agricultural College in Guelph (now part of the University of Guelph). The rest, as they say, is history. After 5 years at Guelph, he left for a period at Cornell University, where he acquired his PhD in entomology and also met his wonderful wife, Dorothy (Sherry) Hynes. Until his retirement in 1982, he remained on faculty at the University of Guelph, where he worked closely with his colleague Reg Shuel to study honeybee physiology and development. Professor Dixon left a legacy of inspired undergraduates, devoted graduates and admiring colleagues. He will be greatly missed, but fondly and always remembered.

Steve Marshall, Guelph



Stuart Dixon

1922 - 2012