

IN MEMORIAM

John Davison (1948-1999)

By Paul Graham

We regret to report the demise of the popular ACBL director, teacher and player Mr. John Davison - known to most of us by his nickname JD - on August 23, 1999 after the onset of two forms of cancer.

John began directing in clubs in the mid - 1970's ; he was promoted to sectional director in 1985 and subsequently worked at the NABC's in the early 1990's. JD's personality was very special in that he was able - as a director - to make rulings and resolve disputes among players without creating any enemies for himself. John was also a bridge teacher with a deep theoretical and practical interest in bridge systems. JD's teaching ability enabled his students to attain higher levels of bridge skill through his regular classes at the Bow River Bridge Club. Many of us will also remember his post-game insights into the play of the cards.

JD's professional career did not prevent him from being a keen competitor. One of his proud achievements was to be the playing captain of the winning team in the Flight A VP Swiss in the Alberta Regional in Edmonton in July this year.

John held an MA degree in linguistics and had a linguist's knowledge of Spanish, French, German, Latin, and other languages, but his specialty was the grammar of Halkomelem Salish, a Native Canadian language. John's love of language extended to limericks, wordplay, puns and jokes that were often risque.

JD enjoyed good food, good bridge and good friends. He acquired an extensive collection of vintage wines to enhance the aforementioned . He loved the music of Gilbert and Sullivan. We all appreciated his bright, colourful personality, which was accented by his flamboyant ties.

During John 's illness there was a large outpouring of affection and support from all the members of Unit 390. Many volunteers who assuredly lightened the load of his daily tasks and health care in his last months assisted him. John is survived by his mother in Victoria, his good friend the linguist John Archibald, and by his special friend Jean Bachinsky.

Composed by his friends.

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Photo is from August 1993 Kibitzer