

Tribute to Dr. Raymond M. Lewkonja

By Gary Morris, MD, PhD, FRCPC

Dr. Lewkonja of Calgary passed away on October 3, 2023, at the age of 80 years.

Dr. Lewkonja was born in 1944 in England. After graduating with his medical degree from the University of Liverpool in 1966, he studied immunology, rheumatology, and medical genetics in Edinburgh and London. Dr. Lewkonja moved to Canada and started his rheumatology career in Calgary in 1976, achieving the rank of professor in 1995.

Dr. Lewkonja was instrumental in setting up the medical school at the University of Calgary. He served as the chairman, clerkship coordinator, or manager of many medical school committees throughout the 1980s and 1990s and established the Medical Skills Center in 1991. He remained a passionate advocate for medical education throughout his entire career.

Dr. Lewkonja published throughout his career and combined his knowledge of medical genetics with his expertise in heritable disorders of connective tissues to become a leading expert in this area.

Dr. Lewkonja is survived by his wife Angela Jane, and his sons Peter and Michael. Services were held for family only. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the CNIB, an organization Dr. Lewkonja felt strongly about. Dr. Lewkonja will be sorely missed by his colleagues in Calgary.

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