



PHIL BURCHELL

An inspiration to many

The Robin McKenzie Institute Canada is very saddened to have lost an extremely valued colleague and friend. Phil will always be remembered for his incredible ability as a therapist and instructor but mostly for his never-ending generosity of heart. We will be forever grateful for his dedication, mentorship and his many contributions to the institute.

The London Free Press, a local London newspaper, has provided a link that you can use to share a memory, to read the tributes or pay your condolences to his family.

<http://www.yourlifemoments.ca/sitepages/obituary.asp?old=648695>

Remembering A Life Well Lived

(Written by: Richard Rosedale)

Phil was an inspiring colleague and friend, a great clinician and exceptional teacher. I had the pleasure over the years; of being taught by Phil, as well as teaching and working along side him. As probationary faculty he coached and encouraged me along, always constructive, sensitive and yet able to pinpoint the areas I needed to grow and work on. He had the same ability during his courses; he could figure out in short order who was struggling to grasp the concepts, he would crouch down next to them explain things in as simple as terms as needed, coaching them through, making sure they were on board. On Phil's courses no-one got left behind.

Phil certainly made significant contributions to the Institute in regards to his involvement with the Education Committee and in his promotion of adult education, changing the way we teach our courses and putting the learning needs of our participants first. But it was on the one-to-one interactions with participants and with other Faculty that really made the biggest impact on people's lives; his generosity with his time, his willingness to share his knowledge, his genuine concern for the wellbeing of others and to share his great enthusiasm... whether this be for MDT or for the Green Bay Packers!

Phil was never one to blindly accept the status quo, he was always pushing for change when change was needed and thinking deeply, thinking laterally, about solutions to teaching and clinical dilemmas. He was an advocate for the research, taking piles of papers between courses, distributing articles, being enthused about advances and ensuring the knowledge was spread. All of these things he did with great dry humour and an admirable sense of humility.

When Phil retired from the Institute he was tremendously missed by the Canadian and US faculty, McKenzie therapists and faculty and McKenzie administration from across the world. He kept in touch by continuing to come by to local courses and to examine for credentialing. Now, we have lost Phil, but his influence and legacy of teaching and practicing will live on.



Robin McKenzie Institute
Canada and Robin McKenzie
Wellington, New Zealand
1994 MII Faculty Meeting
(L to R: Daniele Poulin, Carol
Boaks, Robin McKenzie, Riki
Yamada, Colin Davies, Audrey
Long, Phil, Sheila McBride)

Rome, Italy 2003
MII Conference
(L to R: Sheila, Richard
Rosedale, Audrey, Colin,
Carol, and Phil)



The Phil Burchell MDT Diploma Scholarship

In honour of Phil's many contributions to the institute, the Robin McKenzie Institute Canada will be setting up a scholarship fund, that will provide assistance to a qualified professional wishing to progress through the diploma programme. Details on the scholarship will be posted at a later date.