



Michael passed away peacefully at home in the presence and spirit of his loving family. He was the beloved husband of Linda for 58 years, loving father of Stephanie and Brett, father-in-law of Brad and Leena, and revered grandfather of Andrew, Claire, Elsa, Martta and Paige. Michael was an inspiration to those who witnessed his forging of a life, family and career from humble beginnings in South Africa, where he and his brother Alec were raised by their single mother Edith.

Arriving in Canada aged twenty-seven, Michael got a job at P&G in Toronto and began building a career, eventually running his own charter travel business (the Globetrotter's Club, which he established with Linda). He then pursued his dream to become a lawyer -- despite not having had the opportunity to finish high school -- graduating from Osgoode Hall (LLB 1978) and working into his eighties in private practice.

Michael's passions included reading, classical music, and photography. He had an unwavering moral compass and brought precision to everything he did, not least his mastery of the finer points of the English language, part of his inner drive to always keep learning. He delighted in telling 'the long version' of stories, bad puns, the latest gadgets, and a spicy curry. In his later years, as he faced his physical decline with bravery and grace; he was especially appreciative of the care he received from his beloved wife, Linda. At Michael's core was a selflessness to always provide the best for his family, and a deep love and devotion for Linda. Together they raised their children, guiding them to university and later becoming much loved grandparents.

Michael and Linda came to Fairlawn Avenue United Church about four years ago and quickly became involved in church activities, volunteering in the Walk-in Support program and with the annual book sale. After a period of time, Michael's rapidly deteriorating health prevented him from volunteering or attending church.

Michael's passing leaves an emptiness that cannot be filled, but also warm and cherished memories that will stay with those he touched to the end of their days.

*Submitted by Linda Young*

*Fairlawn*   
*Remembers*