



Terrence Murphy PhD (Terry)

March 21, 1948 - October 23, 2025

A "superlatively decent man", as characterized by a colleague and friend, died peacefully at the Halifax Hospice on October 23rd with his wife Sandra by his side. He had maintained his dignity, humour and concern for others during his difficult journey with Multiple Systems Atrophy. Born in Halifax on March 21, 1948, the son of Marguerite and Gerald Murphy, he is survived by his wife of 55 years, Sandra, daughter Gillian (Brent), son Timothy, brother Patrick (Gail), brother-in-law Cameron Pulsifer (Diana) and numerous nephews and their families. He was predeceased his sister Claire and brother-in-law Gilbert Correia. Terry was educated at St. Patrick's High School, Saint Mary's University, Fordham University and the University of Newcastle upon Tyne. He spent his working years from 1975 to 2001 at Memorial University in Newfoundland where he taught in the Religious Studies Department and then served as Dean of Arts. In 2001 he returned to his alma mater, Saint Mary's University, as Vice President Academic and Research, a role he held for nine years after which he returned to the classroom with a joint appointment in Religious Studies and History. Terry also had an active research and writing agenda which he continued after his retirement in 2013. Over his career he had numerous articles, conference papers and books published. Terry was a loving husband, father and friend. He was greatly concerned with supporting immigrants and refugees both through his roles at the two universities he served and as a volunteer and friend. He was well known to all his friends as an avid baseball fan (but only grudgingly recently of the Blue Jays) and for his dedication to his beautiful garden. The family would like to thank the exceptional healthcare workers and carers who supported Terry throughout his illness. A service to celebrate Terry's life will be held at First Baptist Church Halifax at 2 pm on Saturday Nov 1st 2025 with a reception to follow. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Refugee Fund at First Baptist Church Halifax, to the Halifax Hospice or to a charity of your choice. Online condolences may be made by visiting: www.atlanticfuneralhomes.com Halifax Chapel

Tribute Wall

P

Paul A. Erickson

With great respect and fondness, I remember working with Terry Murphy when he was Vice-President Academic and Research at Saint Mary's University. Terry was a truly well-rounded and accomplished person who was highly effective in his role as a university administrator. I extend my condolences to all the loving family members and friends he has left behind, although with a proud legacy. Yours truly, Paul A. Erickson, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Anthropology (Retired), Saint Mary's University.

K

Kevin & Peggy Vickers

We're so sorry to read of your loss, Sandra. Terry was a favourite Religious Studies prof of Kevin's at MUN in 1975-76. Your friendship started then & continued for years while Gillian & Timothy joined your wonderful family. We fondly remember visiting you in Halifax & having you come to Lunenburg. Both you & Terry were such kind, welcoming people, & we want to let you know we send all of our condolences.

A

Allen B. Robertson

My condolences to Terry's family. He and I first met at the Nova Scotia Archives, got to know each other better when I worked on a Holy Cross Cemetery Trust research report, and later we worked together on the Irish Catholic history of Halifax. A fine man and true scholar. Allen B. Robertson, Ph.D. Halifax NS

A

A Memorial Tree was planted for Terrence Murphy PhD (Terry)

We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ The Chronicle Herald
