

# Professor Emeritus Clifford H. Champness

September 23, 1926 - March 12, 2018



It is with great sadness that we announce that Professor Emeritus Clifford Champness passed away at 91 years of age the Lakeshore General Hospital in Quebec, Canada from complications after a recent heart attack. He will be greatly missed by wife Christine, daughters Annette and Angela, son-in-law Cees, Jos (partner of Annette) and grandchildren Christiaan and Carmelina. He was born in Ripley, England in 1926. In 1956 he married Christine and in 2016 they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in Guildford, England. In 1957 they moved to Canada, first to Vancouver and then a year later to Montreal where he took a job at Northern Electric. They have lived in Montreal since then, for the past 21 years residing in their house in Beaconsfield. Besides his love for physics he was an adventurer at heart and he travelled widely across the globe often taking Christine with him. They took sabbaticals in France and in Germany which they both enjoyed immensely. In addition he enjoyed downhill skiing, amateur astronomy (creating his own observatory on the roof of their house), Scottish country dancing, sailing, classical music, reading, history and nonsense poetry. From 2003 to 2007 he was chairman of the Montreal Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society.

Professionally he was a solid state physicist, a scientist to the core. From 1942 to 1947, he worked on military weapons in the U.K. In 1950, he received a B.Sc. in physics from the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London and was awarded an exchange studentship at the ETH (Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule) in Zürich, 1950-51. He gained an M.Sc. from London University in 1957, a Ph.D. in physics at McGill University in 1962 and was awarded the D.Sc. by London University in 2002 for his extensive published work on the "Characteristics of Semiconductors" and in 2009 McGill University conferred on him the title of Professor Emeritus. From 1962 - 67, he headed a team at the Noranda Research Centre in Quebec. In 1968 he joined the Electrical Engineering Department of McGill University, as an associate professor. He was made a full professor in 2002, was awarded \$1.5M in grant research money, has published well over one hundred refereed papers and many more conference papers. From his graduate students, he has supervised 34 M.Eng. and Ph.D. theses and given many courses on electronic devices to hundreds of undergraduates.