

It is with a profound sadness that we share the news that our close friend and colleague Dr. John Murdoch passed away on May 5, 2020 at the age of 53, at home surrounded by his family, after battling a long illness with courage and humour. John was an honest, and caring man who was liked and respected by all who had the pleasure of knowing him. He is survived by his wife, Nicola and three children, Ross, Caroline and Fergus.

John joined the Department of Anesthesiology in 2002 after coming to Canada with his family from Scotland. He was a valued clinician and teacher and will be remembered for his skill, dedication and compassion. John contributed in numerous ways to the Department and the Kingston hospitals. He was the Director of the Acute Pain Management Service and an active advocate for regional anesthesia. John also served as our Fellowship Director, attracting many new anesthesiologists to Kingston, some of whom have remained with us.

John was an enthusiastic sailor, cyclist and skier, as well as a devoted husband and father.

During his illness, John continued his love of human connection and recently sent a link to a song by another John, John Prine:

*You know that old trees just grow stronger
And old rivers grow wilder every day
Old people just grow lonesome
Waiting for someone to say, "Hello in there, hello"
So if you're walking down the street sometime
And spot some hollow ancient eyes
Please don't just pass 'em by and stare
As if you didn't care, say, "Hello in there, hello"*

And so in tribute to John we hope that we can honour him and his legacy by continuing to be kind to each other and although we keep our distance, we never forget to say 'hello' and not 'goodbye'.

