

seeing a bigger picture, of knowing that while we were archivists working on a project, we were also people with full and rich lives that extended beyond the Archives of Ontario. Her understanding of the human element made it a pleasure to work with her, always.

Past and present staff of the Archives of Ontario, and many others in the Canadian archival community, will remember Catherine as fun-loving, witty, and sometimes mischievous. She rarely missed a pub night, an ACA baseball game, or other social gatherings with colleagues. Away from the Archives, she spent a lot of time reading and, more recently, skiing. But her secret passion was writing, and she was just beginning to realize some success in screen-writing at the time of her passing.

We are bereft by Catherine's death on Tuesday, 29 January 2002, aged fifty-one years. Catherine left us with her characteristic grace and strength after a fierce, fearless, and determined fight with cancer. She will be greatly missed by her archival colleagues at the Archives of Ontario and beyond, by her family, and by her beloved partner, Clair Duff.

**Bob Krawczyk
Allan MacDonald**

STAN HANSON, 1942–2001



Stan Hanson began his career in 1964 as an archival assistant in the Saskatchewan Legislative Library. Two years later he joined the staff of the Saskatchewan Archives Board. In January 1970 he was appointed University

Archivist at the University of Saskatchewan. He was not only the first person to hold that position, but he was also, briefly, the university archives' sole employee. For all but the last eight years of his career with the university, with the occasional exception of a few transitory contract positions, the archives had a full staff complement of two.

His MA thesis, completed in 1972, was on the 1931 Estevan strike and riot; he was subsequently invited to write a chapter for Irving Abella's *On Strike: Six Key Labour Struggles in Canada, 1919–1949* and frequently was a guest lecturer in Canadian labour history classes. With his good friend and colleague Don Kerr, Stan co-authored *Saskatoon: The First Half-Century*, considered by University of Victoria professor Alan Artibise to be "a particularly able and important addition to Western Canadian urban studies," with "dimensions of depth and comprehensiveness that few urban biographies can match." Stan also co-edited, with professor Walter Kupsch, *Gold and Other Stories: Prospecting and Mining in Northern Saskatchewan*. In addition, Stan was the sole or co-author of twenty articles and chapters in books or books, and curator of eleven exhibitions.

This impressive resume was not solely a response to the "publish or perish" imperative of university employment. Stan genuinely enjoyed the discipline of history, and was an excellent writer and editor, and a thorough researcher. Well-versed in archival theory, Stan had a strong streak of practicality and saw an important utility for archivists in continuing, or initiating, historical research projects. He believed it helped one become a better archivist. He felt that experience in working on the other side of the reference desk or researching in other, preferably distant archives helped archivists develop better approaches to appraisal to description to reference service.

And he was, quite simply, an excellent archivist. The ability to perform well the tasks of the profession may do more to promote archives than almost any other function. With such a small staff there was no opportunity to become a specialist in a single medium or field. Stan served as both archivist and records manager, responsible for acquisition, appraisal, processing, scheduling, providing reference services and, latterly, for handling requests under provincial access legislation. He enjoyed every aspect of the whole of archives. Throughout his career, he maintained enormous enthusiasm for the future of the profession and was particularly interested in exploring the opportunities afforded by technology.

Stan was elected to the first executive of the Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA) and served on various committees of the ACA, the Canadian Council of Archives (CCA), and the National Archival Appraisal Board (NAAB). He was elected as both chair and director of NAAB, was appointed to both the Planning and Priorities Committee and the Task Force on a Union List of Canadian Archival Holdings for the CCA, and was appointed or elected to six positions with the ACA. He helped establish both the

Saskatchewan Council of Archives and the Saskatchewan Archivists' Society, and served in various elected capacities for both these organizations. He was invited to give numerous lectures at archival conferences, particularly in the field of monetary appraisal. He was invited by the CCA to author what has become the standard work on monetary appraisal, and was co-editor of *Canadian Archives in 1992*. He had just completed work on another manuscript at the time of his death.

Stan was awarded the status of Archivist Emeritus and was given honorary membership in the ACA at the time of his retirement in December 1999. In fact, he never really retired from the archives, as he continued to drop by to see how we were doing and lend a hand or offer advice.

And that, I believe, is what the archival community will miss. Regardless of his exceptional record of publications and lectures, Stan was a good mentor – perhaps the most meaningful and concrete example of commitment to a profession as small as ours. There are many, I know, whom Stan helped by providing advice and assistance, or even by suggesting them as candidates for employment, thereby launching or revitalizing their careers.

Blunt and generous, a quick wit and raconteur, Stan lived life fully and well. He is survived by his wife Glenys, children Lawrence and Melanie, and their spouses, Catherine and Dan.

The Hanson family has very generously agreed to support the establishment of a joint ACA/CCA scholarship in Stan's name. Donations may be sent to the CCA office.

Cheryl Avery