



**Dr. Ralph Williams**  
Feb. 1, 1926 - June 16, 2000

Born in St. Boniface, Manitoba, Dr Ralph Williams came to Salmon Arm first in 1955 to fill in for Dr Drummond. He fell in love with the area, and returned in 1956 to begin his 40 year medical practice in the Community.

In his long and distinguished career, "Dr Ralph" worked for the betterment of medical care in Salmon Arm and proudly watched the changes and improvements to the hospital as its chief of staff for eight years. When Ralph arrived in Salmon Arm, he brought the complement of local physicians to four. (At the time of his death, there were 45.) As the only doctor with post graduate training, Ralph took on general and orthopaedic surgery, obstetrics and a non-stop on-call schedule 365 days a year.

Shortly before his death on June 16, 2000, Dr Williams was honoured by the Canadian Medical Association whose Board unanimously granted him a senior membership in the organization. This is an honour reserved for physicians who have made an important contribution to medicine in Canada.

After the death of his first wife, Dr Williams married the director of nursing at Shuswap Lake Hospital. He and Addie had 28 happy years together. Their three children, Robyn Markowski, Rodney Williams and Theresa Rutledge all graduated from high school in Salmon Arm.

Ralph was active in the community; a member of Toastmasters, Salmon Arm Rotary Club, Shuswap Lake Care Society, Kinsman Club and K-40. He was also a director of the BC Lung Association for 12 years.

*Notes contributed by Addie Williams/Lois Higgins*