

PAUL MARCOUX 1928-2012

We were saddened to hear that Paul Marcoux, a former member of FICPI, passed away on June 30, 2012, after a lengthy illness that first struck in August 2010 while he was playing golf on his favourite pasture, the Club de Golf Beloeil. He made the best out of the last two years, but he could no longer play golf, which, for him, was the cruellest of punishments.

Paul was born in Coaticook, Quebec, on December 2, 1928. He attended the Séminaire de Sherbrooke and obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1949 from the Université de Montréal and a Bachelor of Applied Science degree in pure and applied chemistry in 1954 from Université Laval in Quebec City.

Paul then joined the Canadian Patent Office (now the Canadian Intellectual Property Office) in Ottawa, becoming an examiner in the Chemical division. After some ten years in the employ of the federal government, he moved to Montréal, where he joined the patent and trademark agency Marion, Robic and Bastien (now Robic). He passed the Canadian patent agent exam in 1966 and was added to the Register of Patent Agents of the United States Patent Office in 1968. He sat on the Patent Agent Examining Board from 1969 to 1972 as a representative of the Patent and Trademark Institute of Canada (now IPIC).

In 1973, Paul joined Alan Swabey & Co. (one of the predecessor firms of Norton Rose Canada LLP), becoming a partner that same year. Although he retired in 1995, he continued to work as a consultant at the firm. Paul was invited to serve as mentor to the fledgling agency practice at the firm's Quebec City office. In 2001, he and his wife, Doris, moved to Quebec City, where they stayed until Paul fully retired in 2004. After his retirement, he and Doris returned to St. Lambert, a suburb of Montréal.

Paul then became IP director, as a consultant, at Labopharm, a Montréal-based pharmaceutical company, a position he held until his recent illness.

In 2009, he became a consultant at Benoît & Côté in Montréal, where he mentored the firm's patent agents in training. Paul was an excellent mentor: he was patient, passionate about patents and an enthusiastic motivator.

Paul was an active member of FICPI Canada from the time the organization began in 1976. He attended many FICPI congresses and meetings and developed an extensive network of friends in the FICPI family. His quiet, unassuming and affable manner, cultural sophistication, love of golf and passion for good food and wine made him a highly sought-after companion at those meetings.

Paul enjoyed golf. His goal was always to hit his age, which he did on more than one occasion. He enjoyed attending the PAT-GOT exclusive international intellectual property golf and tennis tournament. He also developed an impressive wine collection: his wine cellar boasted several hundred bottles. He was well-read, especially in the French classics. Both he and Doris had played in the Sherbrooke Symphony Orchestra in the 1950s, and listening to music, including his favourite, Bruckner, was one of his preferred pastimes.

Paul was a generous soul who was admired by all who worked with him. He will be missed by his many friends and colleagues, but especially by his wife, Doris, his son, Louis, and his daughter-in-law, Ladda.

Robert Mitchell, on behalf of
Norton Rose Canada LLP