



Abbotsford District Retired Teachers' Association
Newsletter
August 21, 2020



Hi, everyone!

It is almost time for the students to go back to school and isn't it a relief that as retired teachers, we are not part of the planning and decision making that is taking place re: Covid-19? It is a strange world out there. Masks, hand sanitizers, spacing—although maybe we will finally achieve smaller class sizes—that would be something to cheer about!

For the coming school year, the ADRTA would like to send best wishes to all the teachers, support staff, administrators, maintenance workers and administration support staff and we hope that the school year goes smoothly without problems... wishful thinking, we know. You all are entering a different dimension, one that we

could never have imagined. Hopefully, this will be a one year challenge and we will be able to go back to life as we know it by September, 2021.

As you know, the ADRTA has suspended all activities until it is safe to do so. We will keep you informed as much as we can about future plans and when we can begin again. We have really missed the meetings, the games, the prizes and all the fun we have had over the years.

There will be a poster coming soon about the bursary fund and how to contribute. We still need to collect money to support our students in their future endeavours.

Finally, if anyone has any thing they would like us to include in our newsletter, please send it along to Gloria. If you know of a recently retired teacher, please feel free to send a photo or write-up so that we can let everyone know.

This month we are printing an obituary for a long time Abbotsford teacher, Monty Martin, who passed away earlier this month. Click once on the link below the obituary and then select "go to page".

Wishing you all the best and stay safe,
Gloria and the ADRTA executive



MONTY MARTIN - 1950-2020 - Papa: The Man. The Myth. The Legend. That's what one of his favourite t-shirts reads, given to him by his six grandchildren (Anna, Ethan, Kiersten, Jenessa, Ben and Xander). And he was a legend. He overcame many obstacles to live a life full of loyalty, achievement and authenticity. Monty inspired many young people as a swimming and baseball coach, and as a science teacher. He loved golfing, camping, swimming, playing cards with friends, watching the Canucks play, and skiing (in his younger, more fit, years). He was dearly loved by his wife, Betty Ann Martin and a hero to his three daughters, Diana, Jenny and Mindy. He was such a proud father and would boast about the accomplishments of his daughters, sons-in-law (Jon, Mike & Tom) and grandchildren to anyone who would listen.

He was a friend to everyone. Monty didn't do awkward silence he would talk to anyone and everyone - and so he was known and loved by more people than one may think possible. It wasn't uncommon for someone to randomly yell out "Hey Mr. Martin! You taught me science 15 years ago!" and of course, Monty would remember them and have a good catch-up.

Monty was preceded in death by his right pinky finger, which left this world in an epic waterskiing mishap. He was an avid golfer, and one of his greatest victories was when he got a hole-in-one. And then he did it again. Legend.

Monty passed away on August 6, 2020 and is laid to rest at Vedder View Cemetery. Feel free to go say hi (although he may not respond, as he's enjoying heaven with Jesus).

Sadly, due to this crazy pandemic year, we will not be having a funeral but have sent out a memorial video to friends and family in lieu of a funeral.

[Video Tribute to Monty 2020](#)

