

OBITUARIES / DÉCÈS

Alexander Baran taught in the History department, University of Manitoba for 25 years, from 1966 to 1991. Born in 1926 in Uzhorod in Ukraine, after the Second World War he earned his BA from Charles University in Prague (1948). He completed two doctorates in Rome, in Theology (1960) from Urbanianum and in History (1965) from the Oriental Institute. He was ordained (1954) to priesthood in the Ukrainian Catholic Church. An active scholar throughout his career, he published widely on Ukrainian, Cossack and religious history. Many of his books and articles were in Ukrainian and Latin. He collected and translated documents from the Vatican archives relating to Canadian history and from the Archives of Vienna dealing with Cossack history. His English-language books included *The Cossacks in the Thirty Years War* (1969), *Carpatho-Ukrainian (Ruthenian) Emigration* (1983) and, with Oleh Gerus, *The Millennium of Christianity in Ukraine, 988-1988* (1989). Professor Baran regularly taught courses on Western Civilization, medieval history, the history of Ukraine and Eastern Europe, and Byzantine Art. At the same time, he was closely involved with the religious, cultural and educational life of Ukrainian communities at both provincial and national levels. At the university he served as chaplain and on many committees at St. Paul's College and St. Andrew's College.

John Alexander Bovey, historian and archivist, died in Winnipeg on 12 January 2005. Born on 11 February 1934, John was the only child of Edith and Reginald Bovey. The seeds of John's lifelong enthusiasms were sewn during his happy childhood in Vancouver. He was educated in Vancouver and received his B.A. and M.A. in History from the University of British Columbia, and undertook graduate research at the University of London, England. He had a distinguished archival career of over 35 years, and in retirement he continued to contribute to the profession. He was Archivist of the Northwest Territories in the early 1960s, Provincial Archivist of Manitoba (1967-1979) and Provincial Archivist of British Columbia from 1979 until his retirement in 1998. He also served as the Archivist of the Diocese of Rupertsland and that of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupertsland. Among his proudest achievements during his Manitoba tenure were the 1973 deposit agreement for the transfer of the Hudson's Bay Archives from London, England to Winnipeg former Civic Auditorium into the Provincial Archives Building in 1975. In British Columbia, he established the Community Archives Assistance Program and was a founding member of the British Columbia Archives Council. His contributions to the archival profession were many, including his early promotion of the use of the Internet for archival reference and research and the period he served as chair of the Provincial Documents Committees in Manitoba and British Columbia. He served on

many historical and community boards including the Canadian Conference of Historical Resources, the Manitoba Record Society and the Historical Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. At the time of his death he was a member of the Council of St. John's College, University of Manitoba, The Manitoba Historical Society, Friends of the British Columbia Archives and the Vestry of All Saints Church.

Stuart R. Givens, 80, professor emeritus of history and University historian (Bowling Green State University, Ohio), died August 19 in Maumee. A faculty member from 1952-97, Givens also wrote *The Falcon Soars*, a history of his University. He had been a member of the CHA since 1974.

Ben Greenhous, former Chief Historian at the Department of National Defence Dhist, died in Arnprior, Ontario, on Thursday March 31st, at the age of 75. Author of several books and articles, among which is the second volume of the official history of the Royal Canadian Air Force, *The Crucible of War*, published in collaboration with Steve Harris, Bill Johnston and Bill Rawling in 1994. More recently, Ben had aroused a national debate with the publication of his *Making of Billy Bishop*. He was still working on his next book a few months before his death. Below is an extract from the eulogy delivered by his successor as Chief Historian at the Directorate of History and Heritage, Steve Harris, at the memorial ceremony.

"I'm speaking with the power of at least another hundred voices - all of those who worked at the Directorate from Ben's Arrival there early in the 1970s to his last visit to Holly Lane around Christmas time. We work in the CP Stacey building, and there is no doubt that the legacy of CP Stacey looms large in the way official history continues to be done in Canada. He was the brick and the mortar of our professional heritage as well as its foundation. The inscription on the Stacey plaque at 2429 Holly Lane speaks of him as "a fine historical craftsman, exhaustive researcher, and elegant stylist." Ben was all of these things, but he was also none of them, in his own idiosyncratic way.

Although he conducted exhaustive research, Ben was also intuitive - and that intuition led him to challenge conventional wisdom - often, and usually with great glee. He wasn't always completely right, of course - sorry Ben, but there it is - but there was almost always something fundamentally right about each of his intuitions.

That was liberating to those of us who worked in the Directorate - in a manner we probably never consciously perceived or fully understood. No matter. We looked on in

admiration when, in the mid-1970s, he was accepted by the Israelis as the expert on the armour/air interface – not because he had seen every document on the subject or made it a life-long study, but because he had made deductions from what he had written about in the first volume of the RCAF history and from what he knew about the Second World War. His intuition carried the day. He is a lasting contributor to the historiography of the Canadian army.

More recently, of course, it was Billy Bishop who caught his attention – and it was that book that most of my current colleagues saw come to fruition. It was that book that drew them to Ben, at lunch, at Zena's, and it was that book that brought them to experience what those of us who knew Ben longer had come to experience.

I dare say that Ben is part of us all. He certainly challenged all of us to challenge conventional wisdom – and to pay attention to our intuitions in doing so – and to remember that people are at the core of what we study and write about. People. Speaking of people allows me to highlight another side of Ben's influence at the Directorate – a side which everyone who knew him will recall. His stories – oh his stories. Good stories, well told.

It's not just that they were entertaining that made them important, however, but rather that they added a human dimension to the office, whether on Besserer street or at

Holly Lane. For they were full of the human condition, and full of human foible. They also revealed what Ben rarely admitted, but something he nevertheless always understood: that being human, he was at bottom as frail and as susceptible as the rest of us – except that having recognised that fact, he worked hard not to succumb to the pretensions of power and place.

In that, he succeeded mightily. To me, and I'm sure to most of us, Ben was never the Senior Historian, capital S. capital H: he was just Ben – because that's all he ever made himself out to be. Similarly, although he was the principal author of *Crucible of War*, he was also just Ben. Sometimes "Oh well, that's Ben" of course – but always just Ben. No last name was ever needed – it was just Ben. So for me, when I think of what I do at work, I'm Steve Harris, chief historian, in succession to Ben – just Ben."

Calvin Glenn Lucas, 1929-2005. Glenn Lucas served as Archivist-Historian at the United Church Archives from 1966-1985; under his direction the Archives grew from a modest size to become one of the largest, most respected and most used collections in Canada. He served as the international president of the World Methodist Historical Society; and with Dr. Goldwin French initiated a revival of the Canadian Methodist Historical Society. He received an honorary degree in 1986 from Victoria University.

