

Guy des Rivières

Guy des Rivières was a member of the Postal History Society of Canada from 1979 until 1998, when he resigned due to failing health. The following obituary appeared in French in issue #81 of the *Bulletin d'Histoire Postale & de Marcophilie*, for the 3rd trimester 2002–2003.

It is with great sadness that we learned of the death of Guy des Rivières, which occurred last September 5. The news was that much more difficult for Chistine and me because we were abroad at the time and could not attend the funeral.

A renowned lawyer, Guy was the doyen of the members of the Quebec Bar; a Queen's Counsel, he was also President of the Quebec Bar in 1970.

As was the case with many of us, Guy began pursuing philately at a young age. He was the most senior member of the Société philatélique de Québec. His collection of the Registered Letter Stamps of Canada is probably the finest ever formed on this subject.

Along with his good friend Georges April, Guy was the first to become truly interested in the postal history of the Quebec region. He published numerous articles and books on the subject, and his collection of Quebec postal history

garnered numerous gold medals, both nationally and internationally. He was a founding member of the Société d'histoire postale du Québec.

I can remember, undoubtedly more than 30 years ago, when I was a young recruit in the Société philatélique de Québec, that Guy would regularly bring "bags" of stamps all having the same portrait: the "Small Queens". He sold them at unbeatable prices, which allowed collectors of the younger generation to become acquainted with specialized collecting; thanks to him, we stamp collectors became philatelists. Later, when I started to become enamoured of postal history, we would sometimes go together to the Archives Nationales de Québec to look at the old correspondence. He shared with me his wide knowledge of old postal rates, postal routes, etc.

In his great generosity, Guy des Rivières wished to ensure the survival of the Société d'histoire postale du Québec by creating a trust fund which will serve to promote research and publication in the realm of postal history.

We thus wish to extend to Mme. des Rivières and to his family our sincerest condolences.

Jacques Poitras and Christiane Faucher,
translated by Robert C. Smith

George Freeman, 1930-2003

Stamp and cover dealer **George Freeman** passed away in Calgary on January 13, 2003. George had lived and worked many years in Victoria, then moved to Calgary over a decade ago. In the 1980s, he often went to the large Toronto stamp shows.

More recently, he has been the organizer of the stamp bourse in downtown Vancouver. We extend our condolences to his widow Sandy and the rest of the Freeman family.

Gray Scrimgeour