



**HENRIQUE RIGATTO**

**1937 - 2019**

**"Reloj no marques las horas"**

Peacefully, in the tender embrace of family, after a rich and storied life full of love, adventure and achievement, Henrique left this world to join the love of his life, Helena who predeceased him in March 2009.

Born November 23, 1937, in Porto Alegre, Brazil, the second youngest of four siblings, and a tornado of unruly energy that exasperated his mother and older sister, Henrique possessed a spirited drive and energy that in later years were focused on becoming a doctor, attending university at night so he could work during the day to help the family make ends meet. He married his great love Helena in 1964 prior to beginning his specialization in pediatrics. Inspired by his older brother, a renowned Respiriologist, and numerous faculty mentors, he developed a deep and enduring passion for clinical research and championed its importance for improving patient care throughout his long career. His passion took him to do research training in neonatology at the CVRI in California, and then, after a brief hiatus back in Brazil, to Winnipeg, where he established the provinces first Neonatal intensive care unit and its associated world class research program, which has trained and mentored outstanding clinical and academic leaders in neonatology the world over. For him, success and fame were never the main objectives. He always believed that research was always in service of patients first and foremost, and as a dedicated clinician helped countless premature babies and their families over the decades, in Canada and across the world. Patients, students, and colleagues the world over will remember most his kind and nurturing nature, always centered on the deep human experience that is medicine.

Henrique had a zest for life and adventure, and in later years as opportunities arose travelled extensively throughout the world, often in the company of his wife and soulmate Helena. But his greatest happiness was always shared moments at the family cottage in Sioux Narrows. He was an avid fisherman and adored exploring the islands and reefs of Yellow Girl Bay, much to the dismay of the local walleyes. Through his declining years, he never lost his passion for fishing, and for sharing that passion with his children and grandchildren.

He will be deeply missed by his children, Claudio (Lisa), Elisabete (Rhyl) and Ana (Allan); grandchildren, Nicolas, Alexander, Reid, Cristina, Benjamin and Massimo; sister Helena Kauer (Alfredo), in-laws, Marco Antonio (Jannette), Reja (Fernando) and Maria de Lourdes, cousins, nephews, nieces in Brazil, and countless friends and colleagues whose lives he touched.

Henrique and his family wish to thank his caregivers, Flora Mae, Josephine and Imelda whose dedicated love and care were immeasurable and deeply appreciated. We are grateful for the care

provided by so many colleagues and professionals as his health declined, and in particular the deep friendship and compassion shown by Dr. Nene Rush. We would also like to thank the staff at Grace Hospital and especially Dr. Owen Mooney, who cared for him in his last days.

A celebration of Henrique's life, with reception to follow, will take place on Sunday, September 15, 2019 at 2:00 p.m., Chapel Lawn Funeral Home and Cemetery, 4000 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

In lieu of flowers, Henrique hoped a donation might be made to the Children's Hospital Research Foundation, <https://goodbear.ca/>

For those who wish to sign the online  
Guest Book please visit [www.chapellawn.ca](http://www.chapellawn.ca)

Chapel Lawn Funeral Home  
204-885-9715