

# NICHOLAS TAVUCHIS



DR. NICHOLAS TAVUCHIS Nicholas Tavuchis passed away peacefully and painlessly at his home of 39 years in Winnipeg on April 4, 2015. Nick was born on November 2, 1934 in Astoria, Queens, New York, the younger of two boys to Anthi and Constantine Tavuchis who emigrated to the United States from Greece. A bright, eager and attentive student, he attended Columbia College where he earned a B.A. in 1955 at age 20. After graduation he enlisted in the Army and served as a photo interpreter in the storied 8th Infantry Division from 1956-58, where he rose to the rank of Specialist Third Class. He served proudly with the Golden Arrow Division at Fort Carson, Colorado and then deployed to Germany. This was a seminal experience in his life, and he often spoke with great admiration and fondness for his comrades, the lifelong friendships he made in the Army, and the discipline he learned there that carried into all his life endeavors. After returning from Germany he met and married the love of his life, Bess Ternas. He settled into graduate study in Sociology earning his Masters in 1961, and Doctorate in 1968 from Columbia University. Nick, Bess and their two boys moved to Ithaca, New York, in 1966, where Nick took up a position in the Department of Sociology at Cornell University, and where he taught for nine years. In 1975 he joined the Department of Sociology at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, where he taught until his retirement in 1999. He was an accomplished scholar, a meticulous critic, and master of the English language. His most noted work, *Mea Culpa: A Sociology of Apology and Reconciliation* is a beautifully written and penetrating discussion that has earned international acclaim in Sociology and in the related fields of Political Studies, Philosophy, Law and Conflict Mediation. Nick was predeceased by his parents and his brother Stephanos. He is survived by Bess, his wife and partner of 54 years, his eldest son Alexander, his partner Laura, his younger son Christopher, his wife Shelagh and four grandchildren, Athena, Nicholas Maxwell, Thalia and Anthea. He loved his family, reading, teaching, baseball, classical music, jazz and the saxophone, which he played in college. A memorial service will be held on May 9 at 3:30 p.m. at the St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, at 2255 Grant Ave., Winnipeg, MB. A reception will follow. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to the Greek Orthodox Metropolis Missions, 86 Overlea Blvd., Toronto, Ontario M4H 5C6.