

**Peter B. Moens**  
**1910-2010**

York Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus Hendrik Pieter Bernelot Moens, known as Peter Moens, died Monday, April 28, following a six-month battle with cancer. He was 76. A memorial service was held on April 28 at the third floor lounge of the Lumbers Building, Keele campus.

Professor Moens was one of initial faculty members of York, having joined the fledgling Department of Biology at Glendon before it became part of the Faculty of Science & Engineering at the Keele campus.

Born in 1931 to Dutch parents in Sukabumi, Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia), Professor Moens was later repatriated, at the age of 14, to the Netherlands with his family, shortly after the end of the Second World War. In 1953, he and his new wife Marja emigrated from the Netherlands to New York City, where he worked as a physiotherapist at the Mount Sinai Hospital. In 1956 he moved to Canada, becoming a Canadian citizen in 1961. In Toronto, Professor Moens resumed his education graduating in 1963 with a PhD in biological sciences from the University of Toronto.

Professor Moens researched and taught with passion and dedication until he fell ill in late 2007. During his career at York, he became an internationally respected leader in the field of reproductive cell biology. His research and teaching was strongly influenced by his understanding of genetics, evolutionary theory and scientific method. Professor Moens was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1978, was made a Distinguished Research Professor at York and served as the scientific editor of the Canadian genetics journal *Genome* for the last 25 years.

In addition to his research and teaching, Professor Moens was a flutist, a maker of jewellery and furniture as well as an avid tennis player, sailor and triathlete. He will be remembered for his energy and his enthusiasm for life, and will be missed by his wife, five children, 14 grandchildren and many friends and colleagues.

*Credits to York University*