

In memoriam – Gilbert (Gil) Winham

It is with sadness that we share with the Dalhousie community the passing of our friend and colleague, Gilbert (Gil) Winham. A member of the Department of Political Science from 1975-2003, and Emeritus Professor thereafter, Gil enjoyed an outstanding scholarly career, while remaining firmly grounded in his commitment to family, friends, and recreations.

After three years with the US Navy, a Diploma in International Law from the University of Manchester, and a PhD from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gil found his way to Canada – first to McMaster University, and then to Dalhousie where he became the Director of the Centre for Foreign Policy Studies from 1975-82. Over the course of his career, Gil built a well-earned reputation as a leading scholar on the political and legal dimensions of International Trade negotiations. He published some of the most important work in the field, leading to invitations as a Visiting Researcher to Harvard, Johns Hopkins, the University of Toronto, and El Colegio de Mexico, and to his election as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He was also a regular instructor and consultant on Trade Policy simulation courses at the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva, and a member of dispute settlement panels of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Gil was an outstanding teacher and mentor. For many years, he taught American Foreign Policy, theories of International Relations, Diplomacy and Negotiation, and International Trade Law (for the law school), while supervising numerous MA and PhD students. Gil's courses were famous for their spirited discussions, and he was famous as a colleague and mentor for engaging in vigorous debates on key issues that always remained collegial and respectful.

No one worked harder than Gil - but at the same time, few succeeded so well at balancing his passionate commitment to his work with an equally deep commitment to his family and to life beyond work. He was enormously dedicated to his wife of 58 years, Linda, his three children and their partners, and his six grandchildren. He was also a fierce and fun competitor, whether in noon-hour hockey, softball, or sailing, where he spent many happy hours racing his Bluenose, J-24, and Niagara class sailboats. Gil was a superb scholar, an equally committed colleague, a firm friend, and a loving husband, father and grandfather. He will be greatly missed.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, January 11th at 2:00 p.m., at All Nations Christian Reformed Church, 2535 Robie St., Halifax, with a reception to follow. To view Gil's obituary, please visit <https://www.thechronicleherald.ca/obituaries/gilbert-rathbone-winham-13163/>