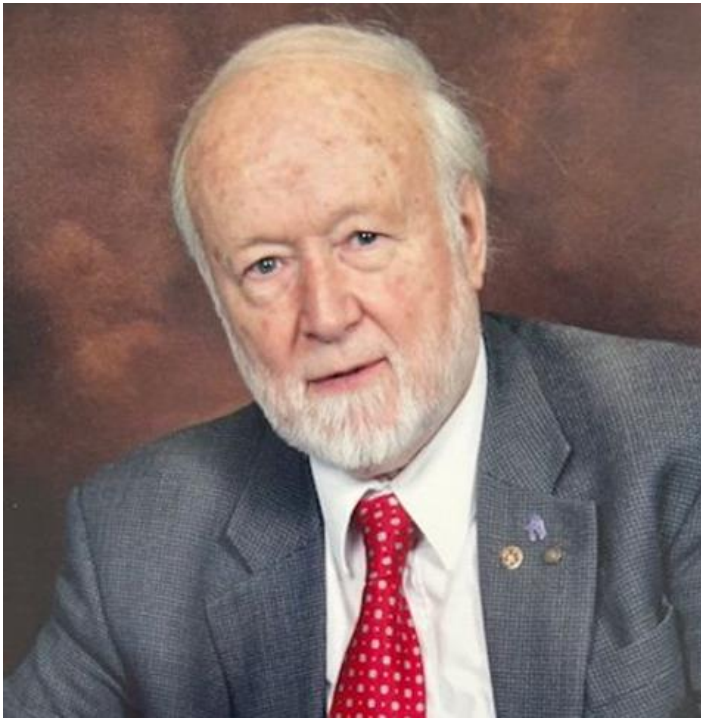




David Russell

1936 - 2024

Rotary Club of Saskatoon Meewasin

David Bernard Russell, Ph.D. was born in London, England, March 22, 1936. He died peacefully at the Sunnyside Adventist Care Centre in Saskatoon, Sk., on December 30, 2024. He was the eldest of three children Maud Sidney Russell. David is survived by his wife Selma and his two sons. His daughter pre-deceases him.

David grew up on London and was impacted by the experiences of the Nazi Blitz of London during World War II. He told stories of playing in bombed out buildings and bomb shelters.

David attended Dulwich College in London then studied at University College, London and Harvard University and the Argonne National Laboratory at the University of Chicago where he did research in electron spin resonance. He conducted cancer research in England in the 1950s and joined the University of Saskatchewan in the mid-1960s as a Professor of Chemistry. David researched and wrote on the risks of climate change long before it became mainstream. He was well thought of by his colleagues and his students, both undergraduate and graduate.

David was a member of the Rotary Club of Saskatoon from 1987 to 2021, when he joined the Rotary Club of Saskatoon Meewasin. David was active in both clubs and added a special touch to meetings by playing the piano for both clubs. The international aspect of Rotary matched long-term membership of Canadian International Council. He was a life-time member of the Islamic Association of Saskatchewan and a foundational member of the committee that led to the building of the first Mosque in Saskatoon. He was an early member of FRAP, the Fellowship for Reconciliation and Peace, which created a much-needed safe space for Saskatoon Muslims, Christians, and Jews to work together and build bridges between faith communities.

David had many interests: he was a voracious and eclectic reader; a gifted pianist; a David was an infectious storyteller who also enjoyed good nature teasing; giving as good as he got.