

CAROL ANNE (WOOD) LETHEREN

1942 – 2001

Born on July 27, 1942, Carol Anne Wood attended the GCVI between 1955 and 1960. She was actively involved in many extra-curricular activities including basketball and volleyball. She served as editor of the yearbook, and in her senior year she was elected president of the Students' Council. Although she was one of the highest-ranked officials in Canadian sport, Wood did not always plan a career in athletics; her grade 13 courses centered around languages and history.

After graduation from the GCVI, Wood earned a Bachelor of Physical Education in 1963 from the University of Toronto, where she played varsity volleyball. From 1963 to 1970, she taught at the University of Toronto, and in 1969 she earned a Bachelor of Arts specializing in Anthropology and Psychology. She then went on to teach at York University, where she earned a Master's of Business Administration in 1977.

Carol Anne officiated in gymnastics at the 1978 and 1982 Commonwealth Games and the 1976 and 1984 Olympic Games, as well as five world Championships. For two years, Woods acted as a consultant to the federal government and then moved into business marketing for 14 years. As a member of the International Olympic Committee since 1990, Wood was responsible for sending Canadian athletes to the Pan-American and Olympic Games, as well as promoting the Olympic movement. It was said that she was "very stubborn about making sure the right things happened" in regard to Canadian Olympics. She was the Canadian Olympic Association's Chief Executive Officer and the vice-president of the IOC for education.

Over the years, Wood has been a coach and official of several sports at the university varsity, provincial, national and international levels, and has been involved in many athletic organizations in Canada. Carol Anne passed away suddenly at the age of 58 of a brain aneurysm on February 2, 2001. She had a son, Dan Letheren.

Sarah Holdridge
May 1996