Edwin David Ongley (1941–2015)

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It is fitting that we express homage to the late Edwin David Ongley (Ph.D.) within this special issue of the Journal of Soils and Sediments from the 14th Symposium of the International Association for Sediment Water Science (IASWS). Ed was one of the founding members of the IASWS hosting one of the foundational meet-

ings at the Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, in 1981, where he was an Associate Professor from 1968 to 1982. He attended all the IASWS meetings up until 1999 (Beijing, China) and was for much of his membership the secretary/treasurer of the association.

Ed was born in 1941 in Collingwood, Ontario, Canada, and obtained his BA in Geography from the University of Toronto in 1965. With a Commonwealth scholarship, he attended the University of Sydney, Australia, completing his Ph.D. in 1971. During his time at the Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, he taught, supervised, and mentored many undergraduate and graduate students in physical geography with a research focus on fluvial sediments, transport, and quality. Many of his students went on to academia or research and management roles in government agencies. While at Queen's University, his academic research was

aligned closely with federal government concerns about the Great Lakes basin water and sediment quality issues. Ed left Queen's University to work for the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) of Environment Canada as a senior science manager from 1982 to 1998 (director of the Rivers Research Branch and later the New Technologies Research Branch). During his time at NWRI, Ed was also the director of the Water Collaborating Center for the World Health Organization's United Nations Environment Programme, Global Environment Monitoring System (WHO/UNEP GEMS). He was also a scientific advisor to the United Nations agencies for the GEMS/Water Programme and for global freshwater issues, and provided policy and scientific advice to the Government of Canada on international freshwater issues. At NWRI, he supervised and mentored a staff of over 50 scientists, technicians, students, and volunteers. Following his career with the Government of Canada, Ed became a very successful international consultant providing technology transfer to multiple countries, particularly in Asia, to improve and modernize their water quality programs and networks. Ed was very well published in environmental quality issues with over 90 international refereed journal articles, books, book chapters, etc., and over 50 publications and reports provided principally to international governments and water quality agencies in support of their development. Ed also had five patents and one trademark to his name.

Ed passed after a strong battle against ALS on October 30, 2015, in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. He leaves behind his long-time partner Martine Allard; three children, Christiana, Michael, and Matthew; and two grandchildren. Ed has been an influential character in many people's lives, in many different ways, be it his role in science, management, or community. Those who knew him are all better off having been freely given his knowledge, compassion, and exuberance. He will be remembered for his intensity and integrity, strength of opinion, his sharp mind, and for his contributions to science and community. He will be profoundly missed by his family, friends, and colleagues.

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