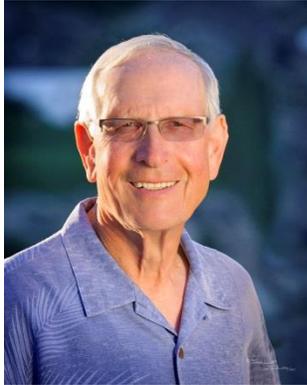


Norman Earl Looney

Born May 31, 1938 in Adrian, Oregon; died March 24, 2016 in Vancouver, B.C.



It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Dr. Norman Looney. He left the world a better place through his contributions to horticultural science, his mentorship of early-career colleagues in all world regions and his compassion and caring for those around him. Norman received his PhD in Horticulture at Washington State University. Shortly after graduation, he brought his family to Summerland where he built his career at the Pacific Agri-Food Research Centre, becoming Principal Research Scientist. He embraced Canada, making significant contributions to Canadian Horticulture including membership on Canadian expert committees on tree fruits and presidency of the Canadian Society for Horticultural Science and Agriculture Industry of Canada.

Norman had an immense influence on international horticulture. He served an unprecedented two terms as President of the International Society for Horticultural Science, embracing country memberships from states in Eastern Europe, sub-Saharan and Northern Africa, Caucasus and South Asia that otherwise had not been part of the science development discourse. He built liaisons with organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. His passion for improving quality of life of the world's poorest citizens led him to found the Global Horticulture Initiative whose mission is to improve global health and prosperity through horticultural crops. A great man is walking away.

Norman is survived by his wife Norah Keating; sister Ardis Swank and husband Russell; sister and brother-in-law Debbie and Rick Benard; children Pam Licopantis and husband Sakis, Tricia Braidwood-Looney and husband Brian, and Steven Looney. His multi-generation family includes 6 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews and their children. His death leaves a big hole in our hearts.

Norman was a fine musician and added much to the cultural life of the Okanagan Valley. Donations may be made in his name to the Penticton Academy of Music, 220 Manor Park Ave, Penticton, B.C., V2A 2R2. A memorial service will be held in Summerland in August.