

## Vale Associate Professor J Dennis Wilson



With much sadness to inform you, Dennis Wilson, Clinical Director of Endocrinology, The Canberra Hospital 1990-2016, passed away in the early hours of Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January, after an 18 month illness. His passing was peaceful, surrounded by family.

Dennis graduated Medicine at Queen's University, Belfast in 1972. He completed his training as an endocrinologist (MRCP - UK) at the Royal Victoria Hospital in 1979. He completed a MD at Queen's that same year and moved to Melbourne as a Clinical Fellow at the Medical Research Centre, Prince Henry's Hospital. He was awarded Fellowships with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians in 1983 and the Royal College of Physicians in 1997. Dennis was appointed Staff Endocrinologist at the Woden Valley Hospital, Canberra, in 1980. He became Clinical Director of Endocrinology from 1990, continuing in that role until becoming unwell in 2016. From 1983, he was involved in diabetes research (pancreatic islet), as a Visiting Fellow at the John Curtin School of Medical Research at ANU. Dennis was awarded academic title of Clinical Associate Professor in Medicine, University of Sydney 1995 – 2006 and Associate Professor in Medicine, ANU from 2002.

Professionally, Dennis will best be remembered for his contribution to patient care as a clinical endocrinologist in Canberra and the surrounding region of NSW. As Director of Endocrinology, his greatest legacy is a long list of endocrinology trainees he supervised, now consultant endocrinologists, including five who now work as endocrinologists in Canberra. He highly valued the nursing and allied health staff working along side him within the service. He contributed in so many other ways, including as President of the Australasian Diabetes in Pregnancy Society 1990–94, Chairman, Royal Australian College of Physicians (ACT Branch) 1990–94, Senior Vice President Diabetes Australia (ACT) 1982–89 and Chairman of the Medical Staff Committee, Woden Valley Hospital 1992–96.

Dennis will be sadly missed, as a colleague and friend. We will miss his sharp wit, the odd Irish tale, his kindness and generosity. He enriched all our lives.

We extend our thoughts and condolences to Dennis' three children Helen, Sharon and Michael and to his partner Kirsti.

Funeral arrangements are in progress.

Chris Nolan (on behalf of all staff of Endocrinology and Diabetes, The Canberra Hospital)