Judy Padua

(1941 - 2008)

Judy Padua was known as a philanthropist and for her contributions in social services.

Judy was born in Edmonton on February 6, 1941 and raised in the Garneau neighbourhood. She grew up with her parents, Lila and Clifford Lee, who were generous supporters of the community.

Judy graduated from the University of Alberta in 1962 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. While attending university, she was active in the Gold Key Society and in the World University Service of Canada (WUSC). Her involvement with WUSC included serving as a board member, local committee member, and staff member.

Following her studies at the University of Alberta, Judy worked for WUSC in Chile and subsequently moved to Mexico City. She lived in Central and South America for 15 years after developing a love for the language and culture. She completed her Master’s Degree in Sociology, married, and had two children during this time. In 1981, she returned to Edmonton and became Executive Director of The Clifford E. Lee Foundation which was established in 1969 by Judy’s father. Judy guided the Foundation with wisdom and administrative excellence for over 20 years. The Foundation’s assets were distributed in 2004, largely to the Muttart Foundation where Judy joined as a board member and continued to work on child-care and arts projects, including the establishment of a playwright in residence program at the University of Alberta.

Throughout the years, Judy served on several other boards, including the Edmonton Social Planning Council, the Canadian Institute for Peace and Security, and the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy. She was active in the IMAGINE program of the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy and in the Mayor’s Task Force on Investment in the Arts that led to the establishment of the Edmonton Arts Council.

Judy received various awards such as the Alumni Honour Award from the University of Alberta in 2004, the Distinguished Citizen Honourary Diploma from MacEwan University in 2006, the Alberta Children’s Services Award, and the World University Service of Canada Award. While under the direction of Judy, the Lee Foundation was recognized by the local chapter of the National Association of Fund Raising Executives, receiving the Outstanding Foundation Award in 2000. Judy was inducted into the Edmonton Cultural Hall of Fame in 2003.

Judy Padua passed away in Edmonton on July 20, 2008 at the age of 67 following a courageous battle with cancer.
Information compiled by Danielle Ferchoff
April 2016

CITATION ON FILE

D. Roy, C. Watson, J. Wright, E. Ondrack, Application to the City of Edmonton Naming Committee. 2 March 2016.

APPROVED HONOURARY ROAD NAMING

Downtown Neighbourhood

March 22, 2016
Naming Committee