

Robert Louis Morris

1949 - 2018

On January 3, 2018 Rob Morris died suddenly while cycling near his home in Courtenay on Vancouver Island.

He was the founding editor of *Western Mariner* and a central member of our magazine's family. He was widely known and respected in the west coast marine community for his unwavering integrity, encyclopaedic knowledge and prodigious memory. Moreover, he endeared himself to colleagues and sources alike with his unassuming disposition and his trusting, thoughtful and inquisitive mind.



Rob was born in St Catharines, Ontario, April 5, 1949. He graduated from Ridley College, attended Brock University and finished his education at the University of Victoria, where he attained his Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology.

Shortly afterwards he began writing for fisheries and aquaculture publications, and first came to the commercial marine industry when he joined the *Westcoast Mariner* in the late 1980s as a writer and contributor. In July 1991 he took over as the magazine's editor, and went on to guide it through to the last issue in August 2000.

His willingness to join in a new publishing endeavour was a significant factor in our decision to launch the *Western Mariner* in 2003, and Rob quickly stepped in and assumed his lead role as the steadying hand on this magazine's helm. Over the ensuing years his knowledge and guidance were repeatedly called on by all of us who worked with him. His career in marine journalism spanned more than three decades, and he leaves behind an unparalleled legacy that includes thousands of articles on every aspect of west coast maritime life: the history, the vessels, the mariners and fishermen, and the coastal communities where they live.

At this time of sadness our thoughts go out to his immediate family, especially his wife Elizabeth and his son Andrew, and their great loss.

Here at *Western Mariner* our hearts are breaking. Rest in peace dear friend.

David Rahn

Publisher

for all of us at Western Mariner magazine