

UELAC Honorary Vice-President Professor Hereward Senior, PhD, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec

I was born on December 22, 1918 in New York City and brought up in Nassau County, Long Island. My mother's family was British, as was my father's father. My father's mother came from old American Colonial stock. After a bout with tuberculosis, I volunteered for the Canadian army in 1943, being accepted for active overseas service and assigned to the Third Division with Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders. I fought in France, Holland and north-west Germany, mostly as a Brenngunner. Twice wounded, I left the army in 1945 with the rank of corporal.



After the war, I attended McGill University where I eventually received three degrees: B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. While working on the Doctorate, I found employment with Canadian Industries Limited in Montreal and subsequently as a master at Bishop's College School in Lennoxville in Quebec's Eastern Townships.

I began my university teaching career at Memorial University, Newfoundland, continuing at the Canadian Military College, Royal Roads, and the University of Toronto. In 1963 I returned to McGill as a professor and have been there ever since. Besides a number of articles in historical journals, I've published six books including, in 1984, *Victorious in Defeat: The Loyalists in Canada*, co-authored with Wallace Brown. Apart from that, I have written a good deal on other subjects related to British, Irish and Canadian history, particularly the Orangemen and Fenians. I've been active in the Monarchist League of Canada and help out with the local Heritage Branch of the UELAC. With respect to the latter, one of our important projects was the publication, in 1989, of *The Loyalists of Quebec, 1774- 1825: A Forgotten History*.

I married Elinor Kyte in 1954, a journalist and historian who died in 1989. We had four children, Hereward, John, Jean Louise and Harvey.

Additional Information about Professor Hereward Senior PhD By Robert Wilkins, UE, C.M.H. President, Heritage Branch, UELAC, Montréal, Québec

Professor Senior has officially retired from McGill University's Department of History only this year [2005], after a career in teaching there spanning some forty-two years. He was the principal author of *The Loyalists: Pioneers and Settlers of Quebec*, the UELAC's teachers' educational resource booklet on the Loyalists who settled within the territory of the present-day Province of Quebec. Fred Hayward UE, Chair of Education/ Outreach, had it published as a booklet and also posted electronically on the UELAC web site in 2004. Dr. Senior was also the principal co-author of *The Loyalists of Quebec: A Forgotten History, 1784-1825*, published in 1989 by Price-Patterson Ltd., Montreal, under the auspices of Heritage Branch, UELAC. That work is considered the "official publication" of Heritage Branch and is still sold by the Branch.

Professor Hereward Senior's other publications include:

- The activities of David Urquhart in British diplomacy and politics, 1830 – 1841 (McGill University, Department of History thesis, 1950).
- The influence of the Orange lodges on Irish and British politics, 1795-1836. (McGill University, Department of History thesis, 1959).
- Orangeism in Ireland and Britain, 1795-1836. (London: Routledge & K. Paul; Toronto: Ryerson Press, 1966).
- Orangeism: the Canadian phase. (Toronto, New York: McGraw-Hill Ryerson 1972).
- The Fenians and Canada. (Toronto: Macmillan of Canada, 1978).
- Co-author, Brown, Wallace. Victorious in defeat: the Loyalists in Canada. (Toronto, New York: Methuen, 1984).
- The last invasion of Canada: the Fenian raids 1866-1870. (Toronto: Dundurn Press, 1991).
- Constabulary: the rise of police institutions in Britain, the Commonwealth and the United States. (Toronto: Dundurn Press, 1997).

Professor Senior also enjoys the hobby of fencing.

His late wife, Elinor Kyte Senior, was also a professional historian in her own right and the author of six books:

- An imperial garrison in its colonial setting: British regulars in Montreal 1832-54. (McGill University, Department of History thesis, 1976).
- British regulars in Montreal: an imperial garrison, 1832-1854. (Montreal: McGill- Queen's University Press, 1981).
- Roots of the Canadian Army: Montreal District, 1846-1870. (Montreal: Society of the Montreal Military & Maritime Museum, 1981).
- From royal township to industrial city: Cornwall, 1784-1984. (Belleville, Ont.: Mika Publishing Company, 1983).
- Redcoats and patriots: the rebellions in Lower Canada, 1837-38. (Stittsville, Ont.: Canada's Wings in collaboration with the Canadian War Museum, National Museum of Man, National Museums of Canada, 1985).
- Les habits rouges et les patriotes. (Montréal: VLB, 1997)

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Last Post: Hereward Senior

Hereward Senior, Ph.D. passed away on June 21 at age 94 at the Montreal General Hospital after a brief stay. He was one of our UELAC Honorary Vice-Presidents and a long time professor of history at McGill University.

After serving with distinction in the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders Regiment (part of the Third Canadian Division) and being twice wounded in World War II, Hereward went to McGill and ultimately received a doctoral degree in history, leading to a long career in university teaching, from which he retired only a few years ago. Even in retirement, he continued regular historical research and writing.

Dr. Senior was a celebrated historian, as was his late wife, Dr. Elinor Kyte Senior, and was a principal author of *The Loyalists of Quebec. A Forgotten History. 1784-1825*, (1984) and later of the teachers' resource book on the same subject. With Wallace Brown, he also co-authored *Victorious in Defeat. The Loyalists in Canada* (1984), as well as several works on British, Irish and Canadian history, notably regarding the Orange Order and the Fenians.

Hereward (affectionately known as "Wake" to his many friends) participated frequently in the events of Heritage Branch and will be sorely missed. The nickname "Wake" was probably a reference to Hereward the Wake, 1035-1072, a Saxon warrior who led resistance against William the Conqueror after the Norman Conquest of England in 1066.

...Robert Wilkins, UE, Heritage Branch
Loyalist Trails - 2013 June 23

Hereward Roy Senior, 1918 – 2013 June 24, 2013

Royalists throughout Canada were saddened to learn of the death of Dr Hereward Senior on 21 June 2013 in Montreal at age ninety-four and a half. For the Canadian Royal Heritage Trust it is a particular loss because he was one of its original Trustees and was well known to many of his colleagues.

Hereward Senior's public image was synonymous with the cause of monarchy. As a general historian, by then a rare enough type of scholar, he understood the importance of monarchy in human experience. Coming to Canada as an outsider from the United States gave him a more objective understanding of monarchy's role in this country's history and in the shaping of Canadian identity and nationality. "Canadian history itself would be subversive in a republican Canada" he often joked. As for constitutional considerations, he maintained "Making an elected president chief of state is like giving the office of referee to the captain of the strongest team".

As an academic Hereward Senior's real interest in people and the pleasure he took in encouraging students to expand their views made him an influential professor. Through his lectures and his writings he created a kind of school of monarchy. Young people from the generations exposed to his views in sessions at McGill, in his unfailingly hospitable home or through his books and articles now frequent the corridors of power. His well articulated royalist position gained wider exposure through the magazine *Monarchy Canada* for which he wrote regularly from 1975 to 1998. His articles, columns and reviews from its pages together with those of his late wife Professor Elinor Kyte Senior were collected and published in 2009 as *In Defence of Monarchy*.

No ivory tower philosopher, Hereward Senior did not scorn to enter the public lists as an advocate of the Crown as well. He became the Monarchist League of Canada's first Montreal chairman in 1971 and held the position until 2002. As academic and active monarchist he gave media interviews, spoke at dinners, debated, addressed meetings and was guest speaker at conferences. He revived the McGill University Mock Parliament and was Honorary Chairman of the Queen's Birthday Parade in Toronto, bringing the *Compagnie franche de la Marine* from Montreal to take part in it in 1990.

The latter act was not only typical of the man's generosity it also highlighted the other strain he had found integral to the country he adopted and took up arms in defence of in World War Two; for along with Hereward Senior's royalism went a love of French civilisation. His most important influence on the Monarchist League was to get the League to take a positive stand on

French Canada about which it had not in those first days made up its mind. He won his battle and the League embraced what was then known as B and B – bilingualism and biculturalism.

When the Monarchist League established the Canadian Royal Heritage Trust in 1994 Professor Senior's activities were gradually transferred to it, a happier fit given the Trust's more educational role. He served as a Trustee from 1994 until his death. Whether as academic or polemicist, Hereward Senior never failed to advocate his royalism in a balanced and tolerant manner, chivalrous even in the high degree of respect accorded the positions of opponents. He brought dignity and the poise of the veteran to every event he took part in. He received Queen Elizabeth II's Golden and Diamond Jubilee Medals. It is hard to think of a worthier recipient.

Arthur Bousfield

Chairman

The Canadian Royal Heritage Trust