A TRIBUTE

Kenneth R. Battell

November 13, 1944 – June 7, 2024



Kenneth R. Battell, a highly respected and beloved figure in the field of Denturism, passed away on Friday, June 7, 2024.

Ken's dedication to serving the public's denture needs and advancing the profession of Denturism has left an indelible mark on the community and the dental health profession at large. Ken was held in high regard as one of the pioneers of Denturism in Ontario alongside Ben Sweet, A.J. (Jim) McGuire, Bill Southby and Brian Monk, to name a few.

For over 40 years, Ken operated his clinic on Concession Street in Hamilton, providing exceptional patient care. His extensive experience in dental laboratory procedures and relentless efforts to gain recognition for denturists in the dental health profession underscored his career. Ken's pivotal leadership roles in the Denturist Association of Ontario, where he served as Treasurer, Vice-President, and President, as well as his position as Vice-President of the College of Denturists of Ontario, demonstrated his commitment and passion for the profession. His contributions were recognized with a Fellowship in the Canadian Academy of Denturists, a testament to his dedication and excellence.

Ken earned his Denturist designation in 1973 and was provincially licensed in 1974. His professional journey is marked by numerous achievements and recognitions. He was a member of several professional associations, including the International Federation of Denturists and The Denturist Association of Canada, and was certified by both SwissDent and the BioFunctional Prosthetic System (BPS). Ken was inducted as an honourary member of the graduating class of '79 from George Brown College's Denturism Program (formerly Denture Therapy) by his colleagues.

Ken Battell's legacy in the field of Denturism is profound. His career highlights include:

- 1974: Licensed to practice Denturism in Ontario.
- 1975 – 1982: Treasurer of the Denturist Society of Ontario.
- 1983 – 1985: Treasurer of the Denturist Association of Ontario.
- 1986 – 1990: First Vice-President of the Denturist Association of Ontario.
- 1990 – 2000: President of the Denturist Association of Ontario.
- 1981 – 2002: Ontario Delegate and Representative to The Denturist Association of Canada.
- 2004: Elected First Vice-President of the College of Denturists of Ontario, also serving as Examiner and Chief Examiner.

One of the most distinguished recognitions of Ken's dedication and service was receiving the George Connolly Memorial Award, not just once, but twice, in 1996 and 2012. The Denturist Association of Canada's George Connolly Memorial Award, sponsored by Dentsply Canada, has been awarded annually

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since 1986 in memory of Mr. George Connolly, a distinguished British Columbia Denturist who exemplified the spirit of service and commitment to the profession of Denturism. Receiving this award twice is a testament to Ken's unwavering commitment, outstanding effort, and significant achievements in advancing Denturism both in Canada and Internationally. His peers chose him for this honour, recognizing his relentless dedication and the legacy he built in the profession.

In addition to these honours, Ken was also the recipient of the Honourary Life Membership Award from the Denturist Association of Ontario in June 2001 and the Award of Recognition from the Denturist Association of Ontario in 1995. These accolades were presented to him in acknowledgement of his outstanding commitment, service, dedication, and achievement in the advancement of Denturism in Ontario and across Canada.

Beyond his professional life, Ken found immense joy in his retirement, spending cherished time with his beloved wife of 56 years, Senga, and his adoring children: Lorrie (Colin), Shawn (Anne), Debbie (Patrick), and Michael (Neal), of whom he was incredibly proud. He also treasured moments with his grandchildren Conner, Jordan, Kate, Riley and Reese. An avid reader, Ken delighted in immersing himself in every good book he could find. He was known for his wry sense of humour, meandering stories, and his passion for refereeing and coaching soccer.

Ken's impact extended beyond his professional roles. He also mentored and guided his two sons, Michael and Shawn, and daughter-in-law, Anne, into becoming practicing Denturists. His influence also reached his granddaughter, Kate, who is currently in school to become a Denturist. Ken was a great mentor and friend to his colleagues, including Michael Vout, Cliff Muzylowsky, Brian Deegan, Keith McKenzie, and many others. His inspiration imparted to fellow Denturists and the people around him was profound and enduring.

Ken Battell's life and career were a testament to his dedication, professionalism, and the impact one individual can have on their community and profession. His memory will be cherished by all who knew him and were touched by his work.

As we bid a heartfelt farewell to Ken, our hearts are heavy with sorrow yet filled with profound gratitude for the cherished moments we shared. Ken's legacy endures, woven into the countless lives he touched and the hearts he inspired with his kindness, wisdom, humour and love. His influence will continue to resonate through the stories he shared, the lessons he imparted, and the warmth he extended to all who knew him.

Ken's life was a testament to the power of compassion and dedication, and his memory will forever be a source of strength and inspiration. Ken's spirit lives on in the love and respect he fostered among his family, friends, colleagues and community.

With deepest sympathy and eternal gratitude,
The Denturist Association of Canada

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