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## In Memoriam

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### Frank Rodway Hamlin, 1935-2000

Longtime ANS member Frank Hamlin died on February 23, 2000, in Richmond, B.C., after a long illness.

Frank was born in Wolverhampton, West Midlands, England, near Birmingham. He studied at Birmingham University, and at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. His 1959 doctoral thesis was a study of the place names of the French *département* of the Hérault—a field of interest he was to pursue throughout his career. Frank was a Research Fellow at Cambridge between 1961 and 1963. He began his teaching career in the Department of French at the University of British Columbia in 1963.

As a research scholar at UBC, Frank maintained a strong critical focus on historical lexicology and place names. Geographically, he focused on southern France, a region for which he had a lifelong personal and professional affinity. His teaching specialties were Romance linguistics, comparative French and English stylistics, and the history of the French language.

Frank's contributions to academic literature include a dictionary of place names, *Les Noms de lieux du département de l'Hérault* (of which a revised edition, entitled *Toponymie de l'Hérault: dictionnaire topographique et étymologique*, will soon appear). He also made numerous contributions to journals such as *Names*, *Revue des langues romanes*, *Revue internationale d'onomastique*, and *Onomastica Canadiana*, a periodical he edited for a number of years.

Frank retired from UBC in 1992, but continued working on a number of projects, including a major study of the place names of the *département* of Aveyron in France. At the time of death, he was the editor of *The Name Gleaner*, the newsletter of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names.

In 1983, Frank was awarded the prestigious Prix Albert Dauzat of the Société Française d'Onomastique, of which he had been a member since 1962. The crowning event of Frank's career took place in 1998

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when he was made a *Chevalier* in the *Ordre des Arts et des Lettres* by the French Ministry of Culture and Communication.

Frank is survived by his wife, Muna, of Richmond, B.C., and his sons, William, of Ottawa, and David of Kelowna, B.C.

Alan Rayburn (with notes from William Hamlin)