

# OBITUARIES

## Alastair Hugh McDonald

Peter S Freedman

Former consultant cardiologist (b 1937, q Edinburgh; FRCP Edin, FRCP Lon), d 19 July 2012.

Alastair Hugh McDonald, born in Arbroath, trained in cardiology in Edinburgh and at the National Heart Hospital before moving to the London Hospital in 1968. He made an important contribution to the life of the hospital and medical school as consultant cardiologist in the cardiac department and later as clinical director of cardiac services. He was senior lecturer in cardiology at the London Hospital Medical College and subsequently subdean for clinical medicine and staff president of the students' union. He was chair to the North East Thames Regional Postgraduate Committee (1989-91); chair,

medical council of the Royal London Hospital (1991-4); and chair, clinical ethics committee, the Royal Hospitals Trust. Other posts included civil consultant in cardiology to the Royal Navy. Latterly his insight and wisdom were further put to good use when he became non-executive director with Lambeth, Southwark, and Lewisham Health Authority (1992-8) and then chair of North West London Hospitals NHS Trust (1999-2004). He was widely admired and respected for his kindness and humour by his patients, colleagues, and students. He leaves his wife, Susan; three daughters; and eight grandchildren.

Cite this as: *BMJ* 2012;345:

© BMJ Publishing Group Ltd 2012