

THE VAUGHAN UNGAR HEREDITARY ANGIOEDEMA MEMORIAL FUND

The wish to honour and pay tribute to Vaughan came about in the spring of 2014 in discussions with Dr. Yang who is a well-respected and renowned immunologist in Ottawa and noted worldwide for his practice, clinical trials and research into HAE. For 15 years he helped Vaughan through numerous crises and hospitalizations and made treatment available at the SAH and for home infusion. Vaughan and his treatment for HAE have been the subject of several papers written and presented in North America.

This wish evolved into the VUHAEMF through a collaborative effort involving Dr. Yang, Tim Howe Executive Director of HAE Canada, Louise Tremblay Executive Director of the Canadian Asthma, Allergy and Immunology Foundation, the Ungar Family, the De Pauli Family and support from Dr. Heather O'Brien at the SAH.

Mission Statement - 'The VUHAEMF exists to raise the awareness level of and expand the knowledge base of medical personnel in Northern Ontario by offering financial assistance associated with conference attendance.'

Although the Fund was completely sponsored by the Ungar and De Pauli families, it never would have gotten its start without the help and cooperation of all the above-mentioned. With proper development, the VUMF will strive for a much broader and continuous donation base. Once it has proven itself to be sustainable, consideration will be given to eventual expansion into other areas of Ontario.

2014's recipients who attended a conference in Ottawa, will be presenting what they learned at this year's symposium. Dr. Yang has graciously volunteered to attend and assist them with his knowledge and expertise.

For 2015, the VUMF is looking to sponsor a third-year student from the medical school in Sudbury and in Thunder Bay. Successful participants would have their conference related expenses reimbursed by the fund upon submission of receipts. In turn, the 2015 recipients will be required to submit how they intend to share their learned information with others.

Vaughan truly was a very special individual who faced his life and HAE with dignity, courage and humour. When in hospital, he would always allow students to be present so they could learn about his conditions. He used to say: "They have to learn from someone sometime!" He had great respect for learning and compassion for those who were genuinely suffering. The VUMF is an ideal vehicle through which these qualities can be nurtured in others and through which he can be remembered in a most rewarding way. It is profoundly gratifying to know that his life, his suffering, his experiences and his death will all be used to reach out to others with HAE to help them attain a better quality of life.

Please make your cheque payable to the CAAIF. It is imperative to add:

Attn: "The Vaughan Ungar Memorial Fund" to the front of the cheque.

Taxable receipts will be issued in February of next year.

Thank you for any way in which you can support the VUMF to ensure its yearly viability and therefore its longevity.

Regards,

The Vaughan Ungar Family

For more information: <http://www.allergyfoundation.ca> OR <http://haecanada.org/>

What is HAE?

HAE is a rare, genetic, and potentially life threatening disorder that affects 1:50,000 or approximately 700 in Canada. It is caused by deficient or dysfunctional levels of C1 Esterase Inhibitor, a protein in the blood that helps prevent swelling.