Below are two contributions written by friends and colleagues of Lou Duggan. Lou was a giant in the Atlantic Province’s library community who, sadly, passed away recently.

Tribute to Lou Duggan
by Su Cleyle, University Librarian, Memorial University & Bill Slauenwhite, Manager, Novanet, and APLA Vice-President, Nova Scotia

Lou Duggan, librarian extraordinaire, passed away June 25, 2017 after being diagnosed several months ago with an inoperable brain tumour.

Lou was very active in the library community locally, regionally, and nationally in a variety of capacities including APLA President, The Partnership Communications Chair and Secretary, Dalhousie School of Information Management Associated Alumni Association President, and a member of many library association committees. Lou was awarded the Dalhousie School of Information Management Associated Alumni (SIMAA) Outstanding Alumni Award and the APLA Merit Award as recognition of his many contributions. Lou was a colleague, mentor, and friend to many of us and he will be deeply missed.

A celebration of Lou was held on June 30 that was attended by over 300 people from all aspects of Lou’s life: curling, music, life-long friends, family and, of course, libraries. A common theme from all the speakers was Lou’s dedication to mentoring others, whether that be in curling, music, or libraries. And, of course, his sense of humour.

When Lou realized that the end of his life could be approaching, he made arrangements for a significant bequest from his estate to be directed to Halifax Public Libraries. In recognition of Lou’s gift, the Creative Lab at Central Library is being renamed the Lou Duggan Creative Studio. The funds from Lou’s bequest will be used to hire new librarians to work as interns (Lou Duggan Interns) in the Creative Studio. Through his generous gift, Lou wanted to make sure that the public could continue to be inspired by technology and non-traditional learning, and that new MLIS graduates could find interesting opportunities early in their careers. Both were things that Lou valued greatly.

We will miss you pal,

In memory of Lou Duggan
by Suzanne van den Hoogen, Public Services Librarian, St. Francis Xavier University and APLA Past President
On behalf of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association, we extend our deepest condolences. Lou’s leadership, as President of APLA, provided our executive, and association with direction and focus. Testimony to his character, Lou continued to act as a mentor and resource for those of us he encouraged to volunteer for this association. Recognized by his peers for his “outstanding contributions to library services in Atlantic Canada” Lou was awarded the APLA Merit Award in 2016.

For many of us, Lou was more than a colleague. He was a friend, a mentor, and a leader. Lou led by example and inspired others to believe in themselves. He was a champion of libraries who went above and beyond to promote librarianship, research, innovation, professional development, and education. I am so grateful to have had the privilege of being inspired and encouraged by this man, but most importantly, I am so grateful to be able to say he was my friend.

Although our hearts will forever be a bit broken, I believe our lives will always be that much richer for having had the privilege of knowing Lou.

Thanks Buddy – we will miss you.