

From Professor Peter Sullivan, Associate Dean Oxford University Medical School

Denis bore his last illness with admirable courage and stoical fortitude. These qualities were typical of the man. Denis was intelligent, generous and kind.

I had the honour of working closely with Denis over the last few years during my tenure as Director of Medical Education at Oxford University Hospitals. I have seen at first hand his commitment to teaching and training the next generation of doctors. He established the Oxford University Medical Education Fellows group and Denis ran the Developing Learning and Teaching course almost single-handedly and right up to his last admission to hospital. Denis never gave up.

Oxford University medical school conferred on Denis a Major Educator Award in recognition of his commitment to teaching. In a move very characteristic of his generosity, Denis used the £3000 award money to support the activities of the Medical Education Fellows. There are a great many junior doctors and young consultants who owe an immense debt to Denis for his direction and mentorship; that they will be better doctors because of this and that this will filter down to ever-improved patient care is Denis' long-lasting legacy.

I was very fond of Denis and I shall miss him very much. Our bond was strengthened when we discovered that we were both of the O'Sullivan clan. Thereafter Denis would send me email messages in Gaelic and I would reply trusting in the accuracy of Google translate! So I hope this makes him smile...

Codladh sámh Denis.