

In Memoriam

Hermanus Eduard (Eddie) Scholtz: 1937 - 2024



On October 22nd 2024, the world said farewell to an extraordinary individual, Dr Eddie Scholtz, whose dedication, leadership and passion left an indelible mark on veterinary science, agriculture and the lives of countless people and animals.

Born on July 18th 1937 in Clocolan, Eastern Free State, Dr Eddie graduated from Onderstepoort in

1960, where his exceptional academic prowess earned him the prestigious Sir Arnold Theiler Medal for Diligence and Merit. He specialized in large animal veterinary medicine, a field in which his expertise became widely recognized.

Dr Eddie began his career in private practice, serving the communities of Clocolan and Senekal with unwavering commitment. He provided care and solutions for livestock, contributing to the livelihoods of farmers and the health of their herds. His influence reached well beyond his veterinary practice as he took on pivotal positions in numerous veterinary pharmaceutical companies and served as a role model for other veterinarians to follow. He lectured in the Department of Medicine at Onderstepoort for a few years in the late sixties.

He was later very active in the Vets-in-Industry Group.

His positions included the following:

- AS Ruffel Research Unit Terenure: Managing Director
- SmithKline Animal Health: Director Southern Hemisphere
- Vleissentraal: Managing Director
- Millborrow Animal Health: Owner and Managing Director

Dr Eddie achieved honorary lifetime membership from SAVA in October 1995. His love for the veterinary profession culminated in his son, Carl and his grandson Herman also committing to veterinary science.

Dr Eddie retired in 1992 to his farm Mica Hill in the Clocolan district where his contributions also reached the agricultural society through his active involvement with the SA Hereford Society, where he served as a Council Member. His business acumen was highly respected as a Director of OVK Agricultural Company.

Even as he approached his 85th year, Dr Eddie remained actively involved in farming, managing a thriving farm that produced Herefords, SA Mutton Merino, wheat and maize. His love for farming was evident in every aspect of his work, showcasing his tireless dedication to both his profession and his farming.

Dr Eddie was more than just a veterinarian and leader; he was a man of integrity, known for his loyalty, social nature and sharp sense of humour.

Those who worked with him often remarked on his ability to inspire trust and camaraderie, which his Sotho name, Musa, from his childhood, confirmed. His life was a testament to the values of hard work, resilience and a steadfast commitment to the betterment of his community.

As we reflect on his life, we honour the legacy of Dr Eddie Scholtz — a man whose contributions will continue to influence generations of veterinarians, farmers and agricultural professionals.

His memory will forever remain in the hearts of those he touched, and his dedication and achievements will not be forgotten.

Our condolences go to his wife Joan, his three sons, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Clive Marwick, colleagues, friends and family.