It is with a great sense of loss that members of The University of Hong Kong Medical Faculty and the Department of Medicine mourn the passing of Professor Sir David Todd on 16 August 2017.

Professor Todd was the noblest of role models throughout his 70-year association with the faculty. He pursued excellence in teaching, research and clinical practice with great wisdom and an open heart, and he applied his talents to helping to improve healthcare in Hong Kong as a whole.

His talents earned him huge respect in the region and globally as a leading haematologist. He was a pioneer who led the team that brought the then newly-emerging fields of molecular biology and genetics to HKU in the 1970s, resulting in groundbreaking work on thalassaemia, amongst other diseases.

His influence went far beyond his academic achievements. He served as Pro-Vice-Chancellor of HKU (1978/80), Sub-Dean (1976/78), Head of the Department of Medicine (1974-89) and Emeritus Professor of the HKU Medical Faculty, and helped to lead the development in Hong Kong of postgraduate medical education and consolidated research funding.

Professor Todd was a tremendously influential figure in the HKU Faculty of Medicine and Hong Kong. His legacy will command respect for many years to come.

A memorial service will be held on October 2, 2017, from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm at Loke Yew Hall, The University of Hong Kong. Members of the public are welcome to join (registration at: http://www.med.hku.hk/remembertodd/memorial.html). In lieu of flowers, the Todd family would appreciate that donations be made to the “Paul and Margaret Todd Scholarship” of the Medical Faculty, The University of Hong Kong, or the “Margaret Todd Prize in Nursing” of the Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong.