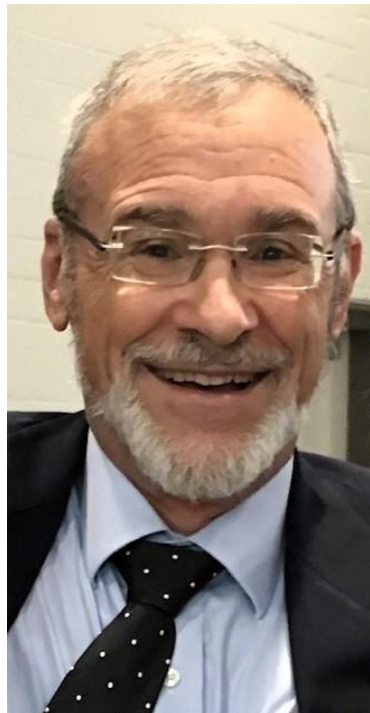


OBITUARY FOR FRANK J. YOUNG

Frank Joseph Young, 74 years old, died peacefully at his home in Sarasota, Florida, on Thursday, September 26, 2024, in the loving presence of his immediate family. He had been diagnosed with serious brain cancer in early May.



Born in Rhode Island, he and his family moved to Modesto, California when he was three years old. He spent his youth in the San Joaquin Valley, enjoying debating and singing. With time, he decided that he wanted to see life beyond the US coasts. In his recent book “47 Aerogrammes: A Passage Through India 1969-1970” and in podcasts and oral history interviews, he highlighted pivotal moments in his college year abroad which inspired him to spend his life in a wider world. His early career took him to Washington DC as a legislative aide to Stockton’s member of Congress. Later he joined the US Foreign Service with the US Agency for International Development (USAID) in 1976 launching his 36-year diplomatic career.

When not occupying various senior leadership positions with the

State Department and USAID in Washington, DC, Frank served overseas in the Philippines, India, Bangladesh and Ghana. He taught diplomacy to senior officers at the National War College and courses on development at Syracuse University’s Maxwell School DC campus and the State Department’s Foreign Service Institute. Frank was USAID Mission Director in Ghana from 1998-2002 and during his six years in Bangladesh, he was USAID Deputy Mission Director from 1992-1994.



Retiring initially in 2005, Frank did short stints in the private sector as a vice president at Abt Associates, a Boston-based consulting firm, and General Dynamics where he helped establish the Pentagon’s Africa Command. He came out of retirement in 2010 to serve as USAID’s Acting Administrator for Asia, to do brief assignments as USAID Director in India and Thailand, and to contribute to USAID’s major leadership initiative to recruit new officers. He ended his diplomatic career in 2016 with a time in the State Department’s Inspector General’s Office.

In his later years, Frank split most of his time between Sarasota, Florida and Ottawa, Canada. He continued contributing and sharing his expertise on several boards and councils including the USAID Alumni Association, the Foreign Service Retirees Association of Florida and the University of the Pacific School of International Studies. Frank loved to take educational cruises, the last being to Norway, where he accomplished his longtime dream of seeing the northern lights. He is survived by his wife Patricia Oxley Young, daughter Andrea, son Alexander, daughter-in-law Crystal, and his beloved grandson.

Frank held a BA in International Relations from the University of the Pacific's Callison College, MA and PhD from Tuft University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, and an MS degree in National Security Studies at the National War College. He was recognized in multiple career service awards.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Glioblastoma Research Organization (<https://www.gbmresearch.org/>) or Brain Cancer Canada (<https://braincancercanada.ca/>).