

TORONTO FILM STUDIOS

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LETTER

March 13, 2007

The management and staff of Toronto Film Studios are greatly saddened by the sudden passing of several well known film personnel in the past few weeks. They include David Ritchie, Set Dresser; Walter Nixon, Locations Manager; Rick Pyman, Producer and owner of Pyman Studios; and Kevin Alanthwaite, Gaffer. There may be others who have recently passed on of whom we are not aware.

Toronto Film Studios would like to plan for a memorial at FILMPORT for these and other film and television industry personnel who should be recognised and remembered by our industry. We are seeking suggestions on how this can best be achieved, and who, besides those listed above, should be honoured.

Our thoughts run from a monument within a quiet landscaped area of the site to a memorial plaque on the wall of a prominent building or sound stage. Another possibility is a series of plaques on benches or trees throughout the site. Perhaps some thought should be given as to whether the memorial should be located within the secure studio lot or outside the gates in the commercial plaza which would be more accessible to the general public. Whatever it is and wherever it may be, it should be a space to recognise those in the industry who have left us too early.

We are open to suggestions from the entire film community. Unions and guilds, producers and suppliers and individual film workers are invited to send their thoughts to ken@tfstudios.ca or linda@tfstudios.ca.

In a little while, we will advise the industry of the input we received. Depending on the response, it may be appropriate to form a steering committee to develop the ideas more thoroughly.

Respectfully,

Ken and Linda Ferguson