

DOUG MARTIN RETIREMENT 2014

By Bruce Hawkins

Every once in a while, a special person comes into our lives
They may be a mentor or perhaps one of our relatives.
Our journey is much richer, the time more meaningful
Having them with us, makes it all the more delightful.

Doug is one of those people, all know that for sure
Whether playing with a beginner or someone of great stature.
He brings class to the task, his manner ever so humble
Encouraging words are offered, although he may mumble.

He has a great passion for all aspects of the game
It is more about probabilities than achieving great fame.
There is no convention unknown, no play untested
And surely every auction, will be hotly contested.

A man of great faith, perhaps his secret to success
His ability creates envy, to that I must confess.
Who can remember the hand, recall the distribution
The way Doug does, with delight at the resolution.

Always ready with a smile, and frequently a joke
His tales on topic as are the emotions they evoke.
Keen to offer help, whether on play or the bidding
And all done in manner not the least forbidding.

One journey is complete, the next leg is to begin
The agenda is yours, no more having to fill in.
Get up in the morning, your choice what to do
Play bridge if you wish, perhaps a hand or two.

The community is richer Doug, having you in its milieu
Welcome to retirement, we are not bidding adieu.
May the wind be at your back, your dreams all met
As you embark on this, your best career yet.