

# Trillium staff bid farewell to CEO



*Staff photo by Fred Loek*

*Dozens of Trillium Health Centre employees braved the rain to pay their last respects to the hospital's former CEO, Merritt Henderson, whose funeral procession wound its way past the hospital this morning.*

By: John Stewart

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April 3, 2009 11:19 AM - Merritt Henderson paid one last visit to Trillium Health Centre this morning when his funeral procession drove by the hospital entrance so about 150 hospital employees could pay their last respects to their long-time leader.

In a steady downpour, many long-time hospital employees stood in silence to remember Henderson, who served as president and CEO of Trillium from 1965-94. He died at his home Monday, at age 76, following an 11-year battle with Parkinson's disease.

Several of the lead cars from the funeral procession leaving the Turner and Porter funeral home located just south of the hospital diverted from their route to the funeral long enough to run past the main entrance of the hospital.

"You are invited to come outside ... to say goodbye to Mr. Henderson," hospital staff were told in a memo earlier this week.

Henderson's personable management style and open-door policy made him a favourite with staff at the hospital.

The last salute at Trillium was followed by a funeral at St. Christopher's Church on Clarkson Rd. N. at 10:30 a.m.

Donations may be made in Henderson's honour to the Trillium Health Centre Foundation, Hospice of Peel or the Parkinson Society of Canada.