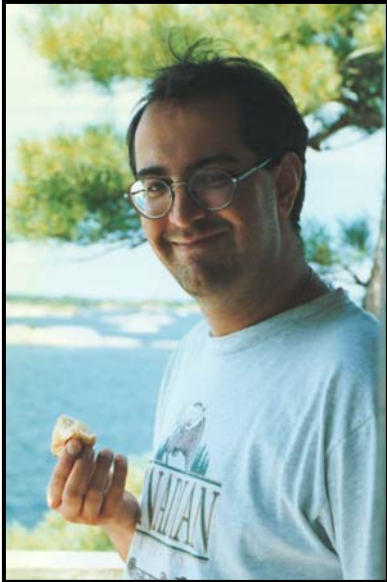


Avi Goldstein's family presented with Courage Award

CCHA executive member and co-founder Avi Goldstein, who died in March 2009 at the age of 40, was honoured with the first Courage Award at this year's patient conference.



Avi's wife Ericka and daughters Caryn and Taylor were there to receive the award, presented to them by Toronto Congenital Cardiac Centre for Adults Director Dr. Erwin Oechslin. The award was created by the Toronto Congenital Cardiac Centre for Adults to honour an adult congenital heart patient who has overcome difficult challenges due to their heart defect while maintaining a positive outlook.

Avi was an important founding member of the Canadian Congenital Heart Alliance, as the organization's lawyer, advisor, and enthusiastic champion. He was born with tetralogy of fallot and despite the challenges succeeded in living life to its very fullest. Avi was smart, funny, humble, and had a very dry, self-deprecating humour. He was devoted to his wife and daughters, and to his entire family, who will all be left with very happy memories but a very large void. As one of the founding members of the CCHA, he will be very greatly missed.

