

Obituary Notice:

It is with great sadness we received the message about Tom Gresvig having passed away on January 2nd 2016 after having fought against cancer for 15 months. The UWC movement has lost a strong, distinct and brave team member and supporter.

After studying at Atlantic College, Tom took a degree in law and then worked as a lawyer. At the same time he was actively engaged in the Norwegian National Committee for UWC, where he was secretary and later leader of the committee for several years.

Already in the 1970s the idea of establishing a UWC in Norway had been discussed, but it was after 1986, when Tom established a support committee and a foundation that the work moved forward. From the autumn of 1987 and until Red Cross Nordic United World College was opened in 1995 he led a small project office as general secretary with unparalleled energy and optimism. He made sure the project was safely landed – against all odds and predictions – and in spite of shifting political regimes in Norway and the other Nordic Countries. It was with well-deserved pride Tom took part in the celebrations of RCN's 20th anniversary at Haugland in September 2015.

In parallel with the RCN project Tom was involved in the work to consolidate and further develop the National Committee as an organization, e.g. by incorporating the student network in the governance.

In the years after the establishment of RCN he became less visible in the National Committee, but more engaged as a considerable resource person for RCN and UWC International, including as an active supporter and driving force for the establishment of a UWC in mainland China. Unfortunately he was not able to be at the opening of UWC Changshu China this autumn, but was represented by his older son.

Tom will be deeply missed in the whole UWC family both nationally and internationally. Our thoughts go to his two sons, Håakon and Knut and their families.

Ivar Lund-Mathiesen
Elizabeth Sellevold

On behalf of UWC Norge and UWC Red Cross Nordic