

IN MEMORIAM

**YVES LOURDIN**

1952 - 2019

**It is with great sadness that we bid farewell to Yves Lourdin, a longtime leader of the international financial services industry, who passed away on February 1st, 2019.**

**YVES LOURDIN** spent his formative years in Geneva, Switzerland, where he obtained a Certificat Fédéral de Capacité. In 1972 he completed military school and became an officer in the Swiss Army in 1975. Yves then returned to Pictet & Cie., the renowned Swiss bank, where he worked as an Assistant Trader in the equity market. When he arrived in The Bahamas from Geneva, in 1978, he was a twenty-five-year-old on a very unique mission from Pictet & Cie., which was then nearly two hundred years old. He had been sent to be one of a few pioneers who would establish the first bank of the Pictet group outside of Europe. He worked as an Assistant to the Manager and in 1982, four short years after his arrival in Nassau, he became the President and, sometime later, the Managing Director of Pictet Bank & Trust Limited, positions that he made uniquely his own and held with distinction until his retirement in December, 2015.

Additionally, from 1985 until 2012, he was the President and Managing Director of Pictet Overseas Trust Corporation Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Pictet Bank & Trust Limited. He then became a Limited Partner of the Pictet Group, a position he also held until his retirement. In January, 2016 he became the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Pictet Bank & Trust Limited. Under his visionary leadership, Pictet Bank & Trust Limited grew from a staff of four, operating from modest and cramped premises at Charlotte House, downtown, to a staff of more than ninety, in spacious, state-of-the-art offices situated at Bayside Executive Park, West Bay Street and Blake Road.

It was upon Mr. Lourdin's encouragement that the Partners of Pictet and Company, Geneva, agreed to invest more than \$20,000,000.00 to construct the new office building and develop Bayside Executive Park, one of New Providence's premier office complexes, on West Bay Street and Blake Road in partnership with Teekay Shipping.

In a field where many of his contemporaries returned to their homelands long ago, after only brief stints in The Bahamas, Yves Lourdin remained firm and continued to fly the Bahamian flag in his new role as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Pictet Bank & Trust Limited. In an interview given to The Bahamas Investor some years ago, Mr. Lourdin said, "My wife and I have decided to make Nassau our home. Our three children grew up here and this is where they come back to. We love the people of The Bahamas. This is our adopted country." Along the way, he became a fierce advocate for The Bahamas as an International Financial Centre and tourist destination and continued to use every opportunity available to him - both professional and personal - to showcase the country and its people.

Yves Lourdin had a simple philosophy, which he repeated to his staff like a mantra: "The better your staff looks, the better you look." By this, he meant that each manager should give his or her staff every opportunity to better themselves personally and professionally; that they should be given every available tool in order to do their jobs; that they (and their families) should feel that by being associated with Pictet, they were part of an extended family that had their best interests at heart. This, he believed, fosters loyalty and commitment which, in turn, contributed to the overall success of the bank. Not only did Yves Lourdin talk, however; he followed his talk with action. Under the leadership of Yves Lourdin, Pictet Bank & Trust Limited made significant contributions to numerous civic and charitable causes, including: The Bahamas Red Cross Society; the Heart Foundation of The Bahamas; The Bahamas Cancer Society; The National Hurricane Committee; the Lyford Cay School and the Police College.

Over forty years, his enthusiasm for The Bahamas never waned and his legacy as one of the country's most vocal supporters is secure.

**On behalf of the entire financial services industry,  
AIBT and BFSB extend our deepest condolences to the Lourdin family.**

