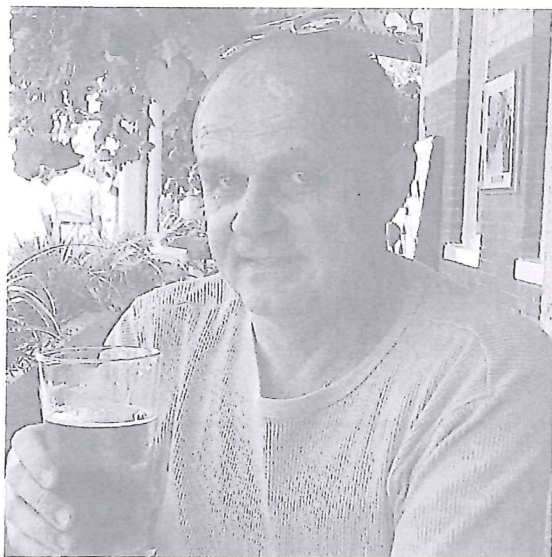


**Gerhard A. Becker, O.L.S.
January 15th 1945 - October 22nd 2003**

By Vladimir Krcmar, O.L.S.

In 1971, Gerhard immigrated to Canada after receiving his degree in Survey Engineering from the Technical University in Mainz, Germany. He joined Schaeffer & Reinthaler Limited, Ontario Land Surveyors that year and articulated under Hubert Reinthaler. In 1973, he transferred articles and joined Anton Kikas Ltd. as a Party Chief while continuing his part-time studies at the University of Toronto.



In 1980, Gerhard was commissioned as an Ontario Land Surveyor and continued with Anton Kikas Ltd. in the capacity of Senior Associate managing the survey department. He participated in the South Central Group functions of the AOLS for which he was President for a period of time.

In 1985, Gerhard opened his own surveying business, G. Becker Surveying Ltd, which he closed due to the recession. In 1992, he joined Vladimir Krcmar Ltd. as Manager of the Oakville Branch Office. Later, he was transferred to Krcmar's Head Office in Thornhill, and held several positions including Project Director until March 2003.

In March 2003, Gerhard went into partnership with Dario Starcevic to form Becker and Starcevic Ltd. He left us in October of that same year with memories of his kindness, gentle manner and above all sense of fairness. Gerhard strongly believed in equality for all and treated everyone with great respect. He was a sincere, honest and caring man who would always listen to the concerns of others. He would never raise his voice. Rather, he was always calm and gracious, and many times in so being, brought out the same qualities in others.

If you asked his professional colleagues what they remember about Gerhard, they would say that he was proud to be an Ontario Land Surveyor. He was a quiet, gentlemanly professional with experience only few in the field had. As a mentor or advisor, he was of great help to those who worked with him. Everyone could depend on him and his opinions were always correct and straight.

For those of us who knew him more personally, we remember the exuberant man that sometimes hid behind all the shyness. We feel blessed to have shared many moments with him and his family (Jutta – his wife, Karina – his daughter, Helga – his mother-in-law) over fine wine, beer, food, and German folk songs. We sit in fond memory of Gerhard's singing and the care and effort he and his family took to host small gatherings and company parties that were talked about well into the months thereafter. Gerhard loved to share and was so happy when he could do something to create enjoyment for people.

Gerhard cared about the human spirit. He really cared. He inspired others to care. We miss him – his smile, his humour, his Christmas cookies, and above all his humaneness.

May his spirit and what he stood for continue to inspire us all.
