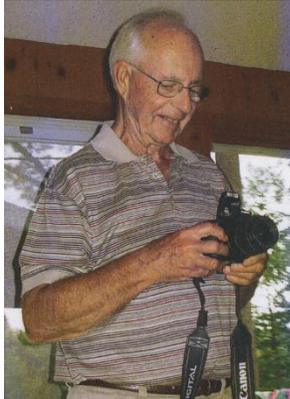


**George Stephen Hook, O.L.S. #1007
1933– 2011
Submitted by Stephen Hook, O.L.S.**



George Stephen Hook was named after his father, George; but to prevent confusion in his family, he went by his middle name, Steve. In later years and as a business owner, we all knew that a salesperson was cold-calling him when they asked to speak to “George”.

Steve was born in Barrie and lived there until his teens. His father, an employee of Imperial Tobacco, was transferred to Peterborough and the family followed. It was at high school where he met Elaine Osborne, whom he dated and married.

Steve began his surveying career with the Department of Highways in the mid 50’s. After many years of travelling for the DHO from Monday to Friday, Steve and Elaine decided that it was time for him to be home with the family in the evenings.

He answered an ad from the firm of Todgham and Case Civil Engineers, located in Chatham. He took the job and moved his family to Chatham in 1963.

Elaine and Steve, with their two daughters and son moved into the house where they spent many happy years. They took up curling, golf and joined a local bridge club, to name a few of their interests. Their circle of friends in Chatham grew while they remained in contact with their good friends from Barrie and Peterborough. They summered at the family cottage near Huntsville for many years.

In the mid 70’s, Elaine and Steve purchased property on the Thames River, just outside of Chatham, and built their next house. Steve did the survey for his lot and planted almost every tree that grew during the more than 30 years that they enjoyed their life on the Thames.

Steve purchased the surveying portion of the firm, Todgham and Case, and renamed it Hook and Todgham Surveying Inc. He then asked me (his son) to rethink my career path and perhaps join the business. We worked together for 20 years. Those were good years. I was always impressed with the calculations the ‘old guys’ could do by hand. One day I went to discuss a survey issue and he said, “you’ll figure it out” and he left. He only returned to the office to use the photocopier. I guess that was the start of his retirement.

Steve was proud to be both an Ontario Land Surveyor and a Canada Lands Surveyor.

His love of family, golf, music, photography, history, reading and travel were important throughout his life.

Steve is survived by Elaine, who has just moved from the house on the river to a new place in town, his daughters, Nancy, a teacher, living in Sydney, Australia, and Deborah, a lawyer, working in the health field in Ottawa. I live in Chatham and am the proud owner of Hook and Todgham Surveying Inc.