

An avid golfer all his life, Len was an active member of the Idylwylde Golf and Country Club in Sudbury. He also took up skiing and tennis in his fifties.

He is survived by his wife Jean (Burton) and sons Carleton of Sudbury and Scott of Toronto. Len was a man of exceptional character and will be remembered for his devotion to his family and friends and for his fair mindedness, generosity and temperament.

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## RAYMOND THOMPSON LANE 1924 - 1997

by **Connie Lane Hawkins and William Lane**

On October 5, 1924 Frederick and Doris Thompson Lane gave birth to their fifth son, Raymond Thompson. Raymond grew up in Sudbury with his four older brothers, Gordon, Lenox, Carleton and William learning the school of hard knocks at their discretion.

Entering Secondary School at the tender age of thirteen he graduated in 1942 eager to pursue a career in medicine, but this was not to be.

The war was on and adult life began abruptly for Ray with the death of his brothers Carleton and William. Only eighteen years old in the fall of 1942, he joined the Air Force but with two family members already killed in action, Ray's dream of joining the fight overseas was denied by the Air Force for obvious reasons. Devastated by his loss but dedicated nonetheless, Ray served for the duration of the war as a Pilot Warrant Officer, training other pilots who would live out his dream.

While on leave in Sudbury in 1944, Ray met Florence MacRae. They married that same year in Calgary where Ray was still stationed. Thus began a wonderful marriage that lasted fifty two years!

After the war, Raymond and Florence moved back to Sudbury where Ray worked for his father for the summer and realized then that the family surveying business needed him. In the fall of 1945, Raymond and Florence moved to Kingston where Ray would study engineering at Queen's University as his father and brother had before him. At the urging of his father, however, Ray decided to return to Sudbury after completing his first year to work with his father and Lenox. Although this was a difficult decision for him, Raymond's father wisely advised him and what the Lane family needed was not another engineer, but rather a good land surveyor!

1912 marked the year that the first Lane began surveying in Sudbury. Rumour has it that Frederick's new business had no employees or vehicles so he would hitch hike to outlying farms and do all the measuring himself. In 1918 he was appointed Town Engineer for the Town of Sudbury but in 1929 decided to go back to private practice as a land surveyor and professional engineer. In 1946 he was joined in partnership by his son Lenox. Ray apprenticed to Lenox in 1946, obtained his

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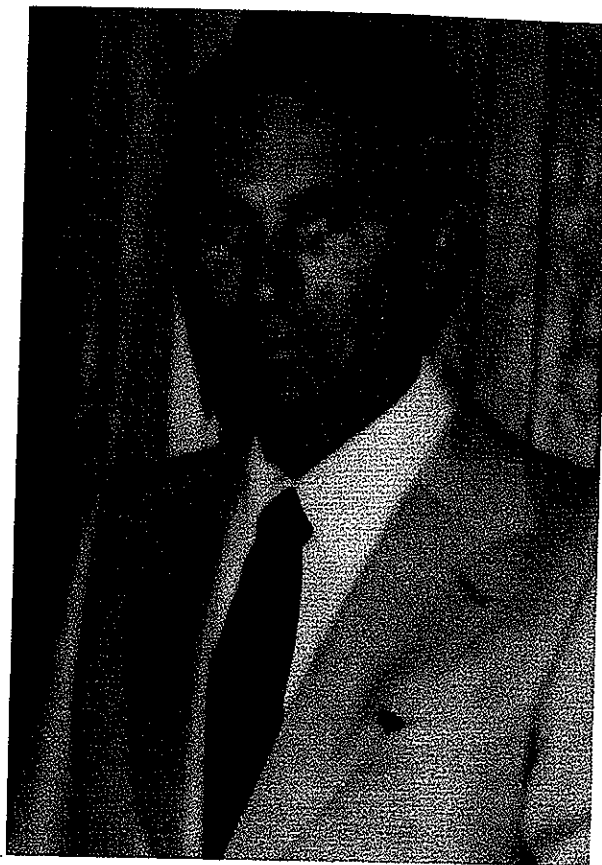
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Ontario Land Surveyor's commission in 1949 and in 1952 became partners with his father and brother. Frederick Lane retired from Lane and Lane in 1955, leaving the partnership to his sons.

Aside from Ray's accomplishments in business during these years he was also busy raising a family. He and his wife Florence had four children by 1952 with the hope of several more to come. Ray and Florence had always wanted a large family and were well on their way to having one! However, even with the demands of a thriving business and family, Ray found time to pursue many other interests. He was an accomplished pilot and founding partner of Manitou Airways in Sudbury. Ray never lost his love of flying. He owned his own plane and flew for many years until ill health forced him to give up the pastime he loved so much. He was also an avid curler and golfer and was a Director and Club Captain of the Idylwyld Golf and Country Club in Sudbury.



By 1969 Florence and Ray's family had grown to seven children. Family was extremely important to Raymond and his work, as important as it was, never took precedence over that. His wife Florence remembers one occasion when Ray walked several miles through the bush after the plane that dropped he and his crew off was grounded and could not return for them until the next day. Legend has it that Raymond would rather walk ten miles through the woods than spend one night away from his family! Throughout his career Ray found many opportunities to employ one or another of his seven children. Those who were so honoured soon discovered their father's strong work ethic and lack of favouritism!

He and Florence had a remarkable marriage of fifty-two years. Through the rigours of raising seven children over a span of nineteen years their devotion to each other remained strong and they shared their love of golf, curling, skiing and travelling. Once their children were grown, Ray and Florence spent many wonderful winters at their second home on the beautiful Isles of Capri in Florida.

With the passing of his father in 1965 and the retirement of Lenox some years later, Ray continued his father's legacy with a highly successful business and one of the oldest land surveying businesses in Northern Ontario. Though Lane and Lane Ltd. was sold and no longer exists, the succeeding company still carries a corporate subheading of "Records Holder for Lane and Lane".

After his retirement in 1988, Raymond truly began to enjoy the more leisurely aspects of life. He spent many happy times at his beloved cottage on Lake Panache which he shared with his wife Florence and their seven children and eleven grandchildren. He was most often seen sitting in his favourite chair by the window doing crossword puzzles or reading. He delighted in identifying the many birds that fed at his bird feeders and in plotting schemes to outsmart the chipmunks that raided them.

Raymond was happiest though when surrounded by his family. He was a devoted husband and father who had a tremendous sense of humour and great strength of character.

Raymond passed away on January 18, 1997 surviving all his brothers who we know would have been proud of him.

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## BARTLETT TOMPSETT

1927 - 1996

by Mary Tompsett

Bart, known as "Bill" to his family but Bart to all who met him after leaving home, was born in Toronto on July 12, 1927. He was nick-named Bill because of his birthdate and to distinguish him from his father who he was named after.

Bart grew up in Toronto with two older sisters and two older brothers. In his very early years, he thought the July 12th - Orangemans' Parade was in honour of his birthday!

While in North Bay, working for the Hydro, he met Neil Simpson, O.L.S. His admiration and respect for Neil, along with his love for the out-of-doors, led him into the surveying profession.

Bart was an independent person with natural and easy leadership abilities - so chose to remain in business for himself. He had a practice in Parry Sound first which he sold and then moved to Gravenhurst where he operated a survey business for many years until his untimely death on June 2, 1996.

Bart was a strong decisive man with high morals and integrity - being "in charge" came easily to him. He had a strong purpose in life and a great love for God. His cheerful disposition and wonderful words of encouragement to all he came in contact with gained him many friends.

He was a respected member of the community both in his business dealings and in his private life. He was an articulate man, both verbally and in his many letters and writings. He was artistic and, as well, wrote several poems throughout his life recalling a variety of events and emotions.

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