

## **Roman Bohdan Lawryshyn, OLS #1067**



### Surveyor's Creed and Canons:

As a Professional Surveyor, I dedicate my professional knowledge and skills to the advancement and betterment of human welfare.

I pledge:

- to give the utmost of performance;
- to participate in none but honest enterprise;
- to live and work according to the laws of humankind and the highest standards of professional conduct;
- to place service before profit, honour and standing of the profession before personal advantage, and the public welfare above all other considerations.

This is how Roman Bohdan Lawryshyn OLS 1067 lived his life...

On February 11, 1934, living under Polish rule and surviving the Soviet famine, a Ukrainian priest Wasyl and his wife Maria Lawryshyn welcomed their second child and first boy Roman Bohdan to their small family. Roman's siblings included his older sister Daria and younger brothers Jaroslav and Zenon. Catholic priesthood in Ukraine during those times proved essential to community life but was heavily scrutinized by the Stalinist communist regime. As the Second World War evolved and encroached upon western Ukraine, Roman's family decided that it was best to leave their homeland and head west. Roman spent this early part of his life living in small rural villages, where he enjoyed playing in the fields and forests of Ukraine and then in Austria, where his family settled after the war. He quickly learned to adapt to new surroundings, new languages, new friends, but always had a deep respect to his schoolwork, especially mathematics.

In 1948, the Lawryshyn family made the journey across the Atlantic to Canada, arriving in Glace Bay, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia and then finally settling in Toronto where Father Wasyl was welcomed at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church on Queen Street West. Roman entered Bloor Collegiate as a teenager and eventually articulated under J.D. Barnes Ltd. in 1954. He continued his studies with the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors and was commissioned as OLS 1067 in 1961.

Roman continued working with J.D. Barnes for almost three decades, surveying all over the province of Ontario on various projects such as the Trans-Canada pipeline, Highways 69 and 401, and as well as many private lands. Eventually Roman was promoted to managing partner along with Bill Fenton at the J.D. Barnes Bramalea office.

In the early 1980's, with the encouragement of his close friend and surveying colleague Dan Ostapiak, Roman joined the City of Toronto surveying department. He soon became well liked and respected because of his wealth of experience in all facets of surveying and his ability to adapt quickly to using the new hand held field calculators.

In the late 1980's, Roman ended up moving from the surveying department in Toronto to becoming Chief Surveyor at the City of Mississauga. This is where he spent the final years of his career, sharing his wealth of surveying knowledge and experience as well being a mentor to all those who worked with him.

Roman lived his life with focus on enjoying family life, church, the Ukrainian community and especially outdoor activities. Soccer, Ukrainian dancing, skiing, camping, hiking, mushroom and berry picking were activities which he always managed to do and share with his friends and family.

In 1959, he married Olga and had three children, Christine, Stephen and Adrian. Roman and Olga celebrated 50 years of marriage in 2009 and were blessed with five grandchildren, Maria, Jordy, Isabella, Olivia and Nyah who Roman always made time to play with and take for golf cart rides in Terra Cotta where he spent his retirement years.

Roman always took the opportunity to give advice and help anyone who appreciated his helping hand. He not only helped survey and build homes for his daughter and son, he did the same for himself. In 1993, after all their children had moved out from their home in Etobicoke, Roman and Olga decided to build their retirement home in the Poltava Country Club, a Ukrainian country club community located in Terra Cotta, Ontario. This gave them the opportunity to be nearer to their children, grandchildren, close friends, and the rural lifestyle they enjoyed. This is also where Roman returned to the Ukrainian village life similar to his early years back in his homeland.

Surrounded by close friends, family, nature and land, Roman passed away on Feb 1, 2013 only 10 days before his 79th birthday.

Vichnaya Pamyat... Forever Remembered