

ROBERT LLOYD LEMON 1919 – 1997

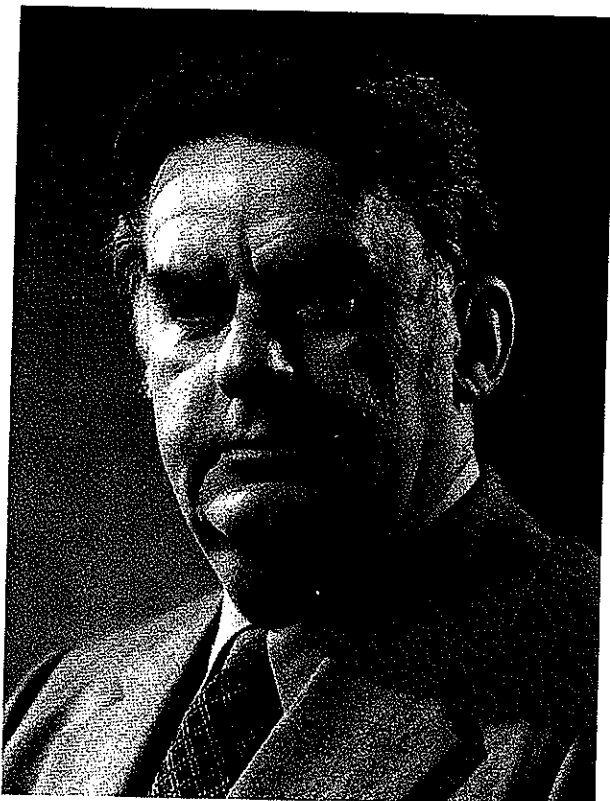
by Peter Lemon

Bob Lemon, the son of Frank Lemon and Blanche Chambers, was born [July 25, 1919] and raised with his sister Jean and two brothers, Gord and Jack, at 100 Wellington Street in St. Thomas, Ontario. He also raised his family and pursued his professional career throughout his life in St. Thomas.

Bob attended Wellington Street School and later graduated from St. Thomas Collegiate Institute in 1938 where he excelled at football (he later turned down a tryout offer by the Hamilton Tiger Cats) and basketball. During his adolescence, he worked part time at his father's business, Lemon's Drugstore at the corner of Talbot and John Street.

Like so many other young men, Bob volunteered for overseas service in 1940. He joined the RCAF and received his basic training at the Fingal airstrip and later Trenton. In 1941, Bob shipped overseas on the Queen Mary from Halifax as Flight Lieutenant and trained as Navigator. Throughout the war, Bob served in Coastal Command which primary role was submarine detection and air sea rescue. He flew in Wellington and Halifax bombers out of Iceland, Ireland and England. His squadron was credited with the capture of a German U boat which was disabled and surrendered after repeated diving aerial attacks.

Bob was discharged in 1945 and upon returning home enrolled at the University of Toronto where he earned his B.Sc. in Engineering by the spring of 1949. While studying at the U of T, he married Norma Miller of St. Thomas, in September 1947.



Between 1949 and July 1950, Bob received his P.Eng. while apprenticing for his OLS certification with Fred A. Bell in St. Thomas.

After receiving his OLS certification, Bob joined the New York Central Railroad in 1950 as track surveyor and inspector where he supervised the Windsor to Welland corridor.

In 1960 Bob returned to Fred A. Bell and Associates as partner where he specialized in rural drainage design, culvert and commercial footings construction, in addition to the usual demands of a busy surveying and engineering office. Upon Mr. Bell's retirement in the early 60s, the firm became Bell, Lemon

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and Houghton when Don Houghton entered as his partner. Bob continued to run the office on Hincks Street until his well deserved retirement in 1984.

Bob and Norma celebrated their 50th anniversary in September 1997. Their four sons live across the country. Peter and his wife Christine and grandson Eric reside in St. Thomas, while sons Robert and Paul live in Vancouver. Paul's twin, David, his wife Joyce and their three sons Aedon, Grant and Jay live in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Bob was a lifelong member of the United Church and was a past director of First United Church in St. Thomas. Bob was a well respected and liked member of the St. Thomas and Elgin professional community.

Big Bob Lemon passed away April 9, 1997 after a several year struggle with Alzheimer's disease and diabetes. Throughout his last years, he maintained his unique sense of humour and devotion to his family.

CHARLES WINFORD LLOYD 1921 - 1996

by Mr. Lloyd's family and Jim Purcell, OLS (Ret)

Charles was born on September 16, 1921 to a second generation woodworking craftsman, Winford York. His mother, Maude, was a nurse and he had an older sister Betty. His father had come to Toronto years prior to start a new branch of the family business "Lloyd Doors". The family and the business prospered until the onset of the Great Depression when the business struggled and eventually succumbed to the financial pressures of the times. Soon afterward, Charles' father suffered a fatal heart attack and Charles found himself the man of the family. At the time he had been studying to become a commercial artist but that dream had to be shelved. He found work as an errand boy and the family managed to survive the depression.

As Charles approached the age of 18, he joined the Canadian Army and prepared to go to war. His basic training took him to a boot camp in the Newmarket fairgrounds. He met two people there that would have an extraordinary effect on his life. One was a dark-haired beauty by the name of Shirley Beaudoin. The other was a recruiter for the Survey Corps of the Canadian Artillery. He fell in love with Shirley and accepted an offer from the recruiter to be trained as a surveyor.

Charles was never very talkative about the war years. The record is straight forward: advanced training in England and the active services in the African, Italian and European campaigns. Occasionally Charles gave glimpses of the somber side of war but for the most part his few stories were typical of his personality—laced with dry humour and just a touch of larceny.

When Germany capitulated in 1945, Charles volunteered for service in the Japanese campaign. This, Charles knew, would get him back to Canada as quickly as possible