

Harold Lawson Macklin P.Eng, CLS, OLS #746
May 4, 1920 - November 16, 2013
Submitted by the Macklin Family and Jim Statham



Harold was born and raised on a farm in the Township of Hamilton located between Rice Lake on the north and Cobourg and Lake Ontario on the south.

Following primary and secondary education near home, he attended the University of Toronto graduating in 1943 with a BAsC in Mining Engineering. During his university studies, he served in the Canadian Officers Training Corps (COTC) on campus. After graduation, he started his first career in joining the military and the Royal Canadian Engineers.

He and Margery were married in 1944 and began their married life in Ottawa where Harold was assigned to army headquarters.

After the war, an opportunity arose and he left the military with the rank of Captain to join the engineering staff at the University of Toronto as a Special Lecturer in Surveying and Geodesy. He would remain with the Engineering Department for the next forty years, retiring as Professor Emeritus in 1985. Virtually all U of T engineering graduates who went on to become Ontario Land Surveyors during his tenure were students of Professor Macklin's and some would begin their professional careers with him. Many fond memories of the summer survey camps at Gull Lake can still be heard at AOLS gatherings today.

While teaching, Harold began a second career. He and Professor Oscar Marshall, P.Eng, OLS would undertake summer survey projects with the help of some students to maintain their skills and, likely, to supplement their incomes. That partnership was known as Marshall and Macklin. In 1951, they were fortunate to obtain a rather large project from Trans-Northern Pipelines which provided the opportunity to formalize their business as a full time entity. Harold had articulated to W. S. Archibald of London, Ontario and obtained his OLS certification and Pat Monaghan was hired as General Manager. Marshall Macklin and Monaghan was born and incorporated a few years later as Marshall Macklin Monaghan Limited. In 1953, Harold was certified as a Dominion Land Surveyor (later to become known as Canada Lands Surveyor). With growth of the firm well underway, Larry Monaghan joined the firm to head the surveying department in 1955 while Harold and Pat concentrated on growth of the engineering and planning services as well as international work. In 1960 Harold succeeded Oscar Marshall as President and in 1974 became Chairman until his retirement in 1985. He remained involved with the company as a Director until 1988.

He also helped lead the firm internationally as a Director of Cansult Limited, a partnership of 3 Canadian consulting firms operating in the Middle East.

Harold played a significant role in the growth of Marshall Macklin Monaghan by providing a solid foundation of professionalism and by attracting and hiring the firm's future leaders. Today the MMM Group is active throughout Canada and internationally providing professional engineering, geomatics, project management and planning services with a staff of two thousand in fifty offices worldwide.

Careers three and four, were personal endeavors stemming from his lifelong love of farming and for the region where he grew up and raised his family.

In 1987, he partnered with his son Hugh to create the development firm of Linmac Inc in Cobourg, Ontario. Linmac focuses on agricultural and commercial development in the Township of Hamilton and in Cobourg. Today the company continues under the management of son Hugh and grandson Drew.

Lastly, Harold continued to operate the family farm, known as Glenmac Farms, as an integrated cereal grains and beef cattle operation in the Township of Hamilton.

Throughout his many careers and interests, Harold was active in professional and community affairs and he received a number of awards and recognitions for his contributions.

He was a Fellow of both the Engineering Institute (President 1984-85) and the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering (President 1973-74). He was a Member of the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors, the Canadian Institute of Surveying, the Professional Engineers of Ontario and the Consulting Engineers of Ontario.

Notable awards include The Queen's Jubilee Medal (1977), the Julian C Smith Medal (1978), the James A Vance Award (1983), election to the University of Toronto Hall of Distinction (1988), the Engineering Medal by the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario (1989) and the Professional Engineering Medal (1991).

Professor Macklin (or Harold, Dad, Grandpa) was a Prince among gentlemen. A role model to his family, his business partners, his students, his staff and his friends. He was a foundation for guidance, encouragement and support. Always available, always calm, always the professional, always the Professor. Integrity, honesty and sincerity were guiding principles whether it be in academia, business, profession or family.

Harold passed away peacefully, at home, at the age of 93. He was the loving husband of Carol, known to most as Mike, and the late Margery, the beloved father of Jennifer (Terry) and Hugh (Sharon), the loving Grandpa of Kimberly, Victoria (Vincent), Megan (Shannon), Drew (Stephanie), Adam and Laura and Great Grandpa of seven. He will be missed by Mike's six children and their families.

On November 20, 2013; family, friends and colleagues gathered for services at Bethesda South United Church just down the road from the farm where he began a life that would touch so many.