

**Douglas Everett Magee, OLS # 1181
1939-2012**

Submitted by his family and survey friends



Doug Magee, fondly known as Magoo, the youngest of a family of 3 girls and 6 boys born to George and Edna Magee, grew up on the family farm near Hurdville (20K+east of Parry Sound ON).

After graduating from Parry Sound High School, Doug found a job in Parry Sound which challenged his mathematical skills and took him outdoors. This job was in land surveying. He completed his articles in 1965 and was commissioned as OLS #1181

Shortly thereafter, he accepted a position as Regional Surveyor in the Parry Sound office of the Ontario Surveyor General with the Department of Lands and Forest. Doug was responsible for all provincial crown

surveys through all of Eastern and Northern Ontario. With a staff of six, Doug completed township boundary retracement surveys, park boundary surveys, township corner restoration and numerous other crown related surveys throughout the region. In 1976 the Ministry of Natural Resources closed their field offices, moving their records to Toronto. Doug chose to remain in the Parry Sound area joining his former articling student, Paul Forth OLS, in private practice forming the company of Forth and Magee. In 1978 Doug purchased Paul's branch survey office in Burk's Falls, establishing his own survey and land planning business office in Parry Sound.

Doug continued to work on survey contracts from MNR in some of the more remote areas of Northern Ontario. Whether it was deep in the wilderness, jumping out of helicopters into icy cold swamps, up to his waist or climbing to the heights of Tea Pot Hill in the La Cloche Mountains on Manitoulin Island, Doug was smiling all the way.

During his survey career Doug was a hands-on field surveyor using his mathematical and calculating skills to solve the most challenging survey problems. Doug was able to keep pace during the rapid changing technology development from dragging a 200 foot metal chain across swamps and through

the bush, having faith in the logarithm tables, to pressing a button on the GPS unit with a handheld computer. An example of Doug's adaption to the use of modern technology was the cell phone. If a client called Doug's office between late October and late March, the client would have a very professional conversation, but never knew that Doug, with his cell phone, may be on a deer run or sitting in his fish hut on Trout Lake. Doug was an avid outdoors man enjoying hunting and fishing whenever he had the chance.

In 1986 Doug acquired the survey practice of James K. White O.L.S.

Nancy Harris-Herr, O.L.S. articulated with Doug and was commissioned as an OLS on October 14, 1995.

Doug continued his survey practice until 2004 when he retired and sold his practice to Paul Forth OLS.

During his very busy survey life Doug always found time for his family and children. There are many fond memories especially the family trips to "the property", a 100 acre bush lot, where the family had many seasonal outings including maple syrup making, snowmobiling and picnics. Winter family trips to Florida were also a highlight when the children were young.

Doug's family, survey friends, fishing and hunting partners sadly miss that big grin and his many jokes and pokes of the day, not to mention the rounds of bridge and euchre according to 'Magoo rules'.