

**Chester Frank McKergow, O.L.S.**  
**1912 – 2008**



Chester Frank McKergow passed away on August 18<sup>th</sup> 2008 at Bolton, Ontario. He was born on January 10, 1912 in Waterloo, Quebec, and grew up in a family with one sister and four brothers.

After graduating from Waterloo High School and attending University of Bishops' College in Lennoxville, Quebec for one year, Chester enrolled at the Royal Military College in Kingston and graduated in 1935. Afterwards he continued his studies at Queen's University.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, Chester enlisted in the Governor General's Foot Guards which was later named the 21<sup>st</sup> Canadian Armoured Regiment and went overseas in October of 1942.

In England Chester instructed at a Tank Training School and organized sports events such as wrestling and boxing.

During the campaign in Europe, Major McKergow saw action with the Regiment in Holland, Belgium and Germany. With the cessation of hostilities ending May 5, 1945 at Rastede, Germany and after serving with the occupying forces, he returned home in January of 1946.

Chester joined the Department of Lands and Forests, Ontario, now Ministry of Natural Resources, in 1946 and qualified as an Ontario Land Surveyor in 1948 having articulated to F.W. Beatty, O.L.S. and Surveyor General. For the next nine years, Chester would spend three months each winter and each summer under canvas surveying base and meridian lines in the far north-western Ontario. His military training in logistics was invaluable as supply of manpower, food and equipment is essential to the success of these projects.

Chester also supervised the conduct of Crown surveys such as cottage lot or townsite subdivisions, township boundary retracement, mining claims and miscellaneous surveys and discharged his duties as Inspector of Surveys.

Reluctantly in 1964 he accepted the position of Supervisor of Crown Surveys as he would now be removed from field work which he had enjoyed. Chester retired from the Ministry of Natural Resources in 1975.

Chester was active in the affairs of the Association, he presented numerous papers at Annual General Meetings, served on numerous committees, lectured and examined students for admission to practice and articulated several surveyors.

In 1949 Chester married Hazel Pitt Burton of Toronto. They enjoyed travelling, music and gardening. Their flower gardens were the envy of the neighbourhood. Hazel predeceased Chester on July 10<sup>th</sup> 2000.