

**Robert "Bob" J. Meisner, O.L.S. (Ret) #1212  
1934 - 2011**

**Submitted by Sara Jane Meisner**



Bob was born in Toronto, Ontario and in 1936 the family moved to New Liskeard. He and his sister, Peggy and brother, Donald spent their formative years there.

Bob was active in sports as well as Cubs and Scouts. He had the Honour of being the last King Scout as King George died shortly thereafter. He attended two years of Civil Engineering at the University of Toronto but due to his father falling ill, there was no money to continue his formal education there.

In 1956 he began a job with a local survey firm later known as Sutcliffe's and articulated to become an Ontario Land Surveyor. Most of Bob's work was out of town performing everything from pipeline surveys in the Yukon to staking mining claims and town sites. One such town site people may have heard of is Elliot Lake, formerly a Uranium town now mainly a Retirement Community. The articling period for a surveyor back then was typically 4 years. Unfortunately for Bob all his work was out of town in the bush and the days were long. There was never any sustained time to study for exams.

Bob met his future wife, a RN at the New Liskeard Hospital in 1962 and they married in 1963. In 1964 a son was born and in 1965 Bob accepted a position with Mackay and Rody in Cochrane. In 1967 a daughter was born. It was in Cochrane that Bob was able to complete his Articles and obtain his Ontario Land Surveyor commission in 1968.

In 1973 Bob joined the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, now ServiceOntario, as an Assistant Examiner of Surveys in the Sudbury office. Two years later Bob was offered the same position in Ottawa.

Bob was very active in the AOLS and served as President and Past President in 1985-86. He was the first President from the Public Sector. During this time the profession adopted Peer reviews of a surveyor's business in order to better protect the public. Close to Bob's heart was the issue of Copyright of Surveyors plans which in the view of many were being abused by lawyers and real estate agents. Bob wrote a paper on the subject and as of now some 25+ years later copyright is the subject of litigation. One tradition he started and that is still being followed today was the President toasting the incoming Council.

Bob's life beyond work involved swimming, and in 1983 he was rated as the 6th best swimmer in the Master's Division for his age and Category. He was also involved as a Scout Leader and sat various committees of his church and enjoyed family camping trips down south. Golf was also a passion of his, especially so in the last 20 years.

After his retirement in 1996, he became an early adopter of the Internet. It was not unusual to receive a daily dose of jokes in your in-box thanks to Bob. Trips to the Caribbean, Saudi Arabia, Portugal, The British Isles and many cruises as well as summer golfing, gave both Bob and Sara Jane many great memories.

Unfortunately, cancer came into his life in 2009 and although he put up a brave fight it took him from us in August 2011.

Bob is survived by his wife Sara Jane of Ottawa, son Jeff and his wife Joy and two boys of Dhahran, Saudi Arabia and daughter Elizabeth and her husband Sean, son Daniel and daughter Caitlin of GeorgeTown, Grand Cayman Island.