ROBERT ROLLAND MULCAHY
1909 - 1996

by Harry G. Coupland, OLS

Rolly Mulcahy was a man respected by all who knew him and endeared to all who knew him well. It was our sad loss when he departed this world on September 28, 1996, at the age of 87, while living in Orillia, the town of his birth.

Rolly was born on June 23, 1909 and christened Robert Rolland Mulcahy but was always know as R. Rolland or "Rolly". He was one of eight children of the well known Mulcahy family of Orillia.

His lifetime journey took him to many places around Ontario and Canada:

- to Kingston, to attend Queen's University, eventually graduating as a mining engineer in 1937
- to Northern Ontario as a summer student in Geology, eventually having a lake north of Sioux Lookout named after him
- after graduation, to McIntyre Mines in Schumacher, Ontario where he worked from 1937 to 1942
- to South Porcupine in 1937, where he met his wife Edith, a talented artist who has still paintings hanging in many galleries
- to Dartmouth and Halifax in 1942, where he was attached to the Naval Armaments Depot
- to Renfrew in 1947, with Ontario Hydro (then the HEPC), where he was active in helping to build the Des Joachims power plant for two years
- to Belleville in 1949, with the HEPC, where he received his OLS commission
- to Toronto in 1952, with the HEPC, as an OLS supervisor
- to South Porcupine in 1955, as Mine Superintendent of the Preston East Dome Mine
- to Blind River in 1964, as mine engineer for the Pronto Mine of Rio Algom/ Rio Tinto conglomerate
- to Elliot Lake in 1968, as mine superintendent for Rio Algom
- temporarily back to Toronto in 1974 to refresh his OLS before entering his own private practice in Elliot Lake
Rolly's last job was manager of the Elliot Lake office for Marshall Macklin Monaghan. He retired in 1979 and moved back to his boyhood home of Orillia.

Rolly was a great lacrosse player in his youth and an avid sportsman all his life. While professing to be a great fisherman, he often watched as one of his sons, Michael or Dennis, pulled out the big ones.

Rolly built his own 20 foot sailing boat with an overnight cabin and spent many evenings and weekends sailing the North Channel of Georgian Bay and eventually Lake Couchiching.

Winter time found him cross-country skiing and bird watching, often on his own, as Edith went to Florida and Rolly stayed home in beloved Ontario.

Gardening was another passion that he took up wherever he lived, coaxing prize vegetables out of rocky soil. He was an active member of the local Roman Catholic Church and for a time belonged to the Knights of Columbus.

As a student, Rolly articled to Harry Williams of the Hydro Electric Power Commission of Ontario in 1947 and obtained his commission as an Ontario land Surveyor on the 30th of July, 1949. He made a temporary retirement as an OLS in 1955 while pursuing his mining career and was reinstated in 1969. He retired from both careers for the second and last time in 1979.

Rolly was a good friend to many, always ready to listen to others and encourage them to do their best. He will long be remembered as a worthy and trusted servant in all his endeavours.

RODNEY CAMPBELL RAIKES
1940 - 1997

by Gail Raikes

"Great Pilot of my onward way,
Thou wilt not let me drift,
I feel the winds of God today,
Today my sail I lift."

From the hymn "I Feel the Winds of God Today"

This hymn was read at Rod’s Service of Remembrance, to celebrate his life and mark his death on December 7, 1997. These words epitomize much of Rod—his enthusiasm for life, his love of the outdoors, and his faith.

Rod was born in Barrie, Ontario and lived his life on land settled in 1852 by his great grandfather. His early years were spent in “The Pleasaunce”, the family home, and his later years at “Raikes Cove”, his home on Kempenfelt Bay.