

**Alan James Simpson
1926-2012
Submitted by his family**



Alan was born June 24, 1926 in what was then known as Eastview, a suburb in the east part of Ottawa. In 1928 his father accepted a position as Plant Manager for EB Eddy Match Co. and the family moved to Pembroke, Ontario. During his formative and teenage years Alan excelled in both athletics and academics. In school he enjoyed such sports as basketball and hockey.

In 1939 he received the E. A. Dunlop Award for outstanding academic achievement for all of Renfrew County. In 1942 he received the King George VI medal for marksmanship achieving a perfect score at the Connaught Ranges in Ottawa. In addition to this award, he was given the Galer Hagarty Memorial Prize for distinguishing himself in the cadet corps at Pembroke Collegiate. In 1944 Alan enlisted with the RCAF and trained as a Pilot Officer and Tail Gunner with the Commonwealth Flying Schools in Brantford and Port Albert, Ontario. When the RCAF disbanded in late 1944, he enlisted with the Royal Canadian Regiment at Peterborough, Ontario. He volunteered as a test subject in biological and chemical warfare at the National Research Council in Ottawa. Alan finished his war service as an ambulance driver in Halifax, Nova Scotia, ferrying the wounded from the hospital ships returning from Europe. After the war he returned to Pembroke and completed his high school education.

In 1946, Alan and his new bride, Sally Shea moved to Haileybury, Ontario. Alan attended the Haileybury School of Mines and became a mine surveyor. He also worked for Ontario Hydro building the Des Joachims Dam at Rolphton, Ontario. In 1948 he went to work for OLS Associates William F. Beatty and Charles G. Taylor in Pembroke. During the 1950's he worked for the Town of Pembroke. He articulated

under J. Parnell Howe, the town Engineer and studied for his Ontario Land Survey License through correspondence with the University of Toronto. Many times he would hitch-hike to Toronto to complete his exams. With a young family of four, for some this would be an impossible task, but with Sally's support, Alan was able to reach his goal. He received his OLS designation in 1959. His number was 1038.

In 1961 he joined forces with OLS Anthony C. Bourne (Tony) and subsequently, the partnership of Bourne and Simpson was formed. Together in 1964, they purchased a building on the corner of Moffat and Isabella St. in Pembroke. They named their office the Champlain Building in honour of Samuel de Champlain, Canada's first surveyor. Throughout the following 35 years or so, the business flourished. In 1996, the business was purchased by John Goltz from Perth, Ontario. Bourne and Simpson could boast one of the longest surviving partnerships in the Pembroke area.

During these years Alan dedicated himself to his family, friends and community. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, golf and many family ski trips. In the summers he and his family enjoyed cottage life at Lake Clear near Eganville, Ontario. He was a long standing Rotarian and was awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship for service to his community. He was also a long standing member of Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church. In later years, he was challenged with failing health but not spirit. Until his last breath, he demonstrated an unparalleled sense of humour and incredible wit. Alan was very close to his friends and family who in his last years rallied around him to make this time a memorable one. Alan was predeceased by daughter, Mary Jane (1953) and leaves behind his wife Sally of 66 years, one daughter and five sons. To his ten grand children he will always be known affectionately as Pampy. Alan passed on March 17, 2012.