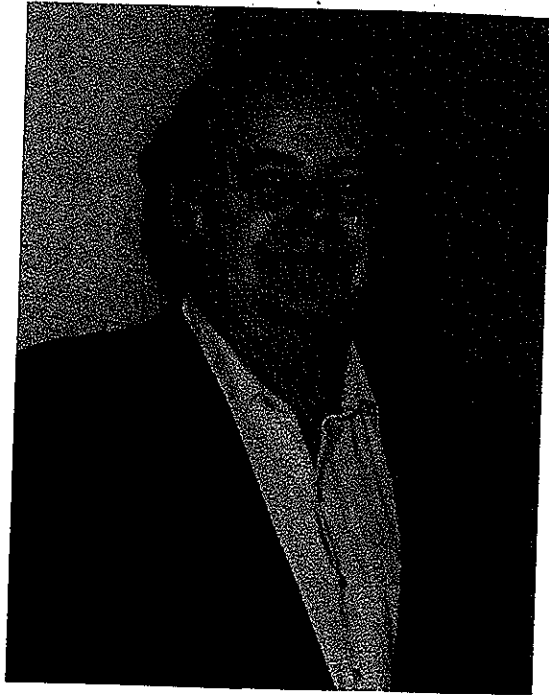


BERKELEY GRANT SQUARE 1936 - 1997

Berk was born (on April 19, 1936) and raised in the area of Toronto known as "The Beach" where he lived all his life except for a year during the war when the family moved to Trinidad. He inherited his love for music of the bands and Broadway shows often playing one of his Broadway books from cover to cover before going to bed. The next day Joan would be greeted by a bleary-eyed child saying "Mom, he was at it again until one o'clock. Can't you do anything about it?" His voice was tuneful and pleasant and he had recently taken an interest in Karaoke evenings choosing pieces that Frank Sinatra sang such as "New York, New York" and "My Way". Each time he submitted his chosen song he used a different fun name, Tex Ritter and many others but he became fondly known around the church as Lance.



When Berk was about twelve years old, he and his boyfriends were taught to play bridge by a father of one of the boys. They quickly became avid players and have been playing once a week since that time. Berk's empty place at the bridge table still leaves three of the original "boys". There have been several new additions who joined the group about 35 to 40 years ago. One player lives in England but still attends on his frequent visits to Toronto.

Berk attended Malvern Collegiate where he passed with honours favouring the math subjects and knowing he wanted to choose a career where they would be used. Berk was excellent at basketball and the racket sports. They seemed to come easy to him. It's not surprising that with a love of music and easy style with sports he was an "old smoothy" on the dance floor.

Berk graduated from high school in 1955 and immediately joined the firm of Speight, van Nostrand, Ward & Anderson, where he articulated to Ralph M. Anderson, O.L.S., receiving his commission in November 1960. He continued to work as a surveyor in the field until 1974, at which time he took on office duties. In 1990, the company became known as Speight, Van Nostrand & Gibson Limited and in 1991 Berk became President of the firm and remained so until his death in February 1997.

Berk and Joan both attended Bellefair Sunday School but it wasn't until they both began teaching Sunday School and joined Young People's Union that their romance began. They were married on September 15, 1962 and have two adult children, Trent and Meredith.

Bellefair United Church was important to him. Berk's faith was strong and he believed in participating in the ministry serving as Sunday School teacher for 29 years, as chair of session and committee member from time to time. He is remembered for his reliable presence, for the important agenda notes on the back of his cigarette package, for his commitment to the church community and for his warm sense of humour.

Berk and his wife Joan were the first lay coordinators in Ontario for United Worldwide Marriage Encounter an experience that enriched their marriage and their family life. As a father he spent many hours with the children, Trent and Meredith, when they were growing up often taking all of Saturday for library, skating, trips to the Science Centre, the Island. He was patient, kind and fun to be with.

Berk loved Christmas. He was Mr. Santa and made Christmas special for the whole family. He did all the shopping for presents and the stockings, and did the wrapping which was a great source of fun for everyone. Berk couldn't resist the dollar stores and has left behind fond memories of surprising gifts.

The father, the husband, friend and companion will be missed but not forgotten. Berk's love, his warmth and his humour are the gifts his family treasures the most.

ARTHUR FREDERICK COTTON

1852 - 1925

Autobiography; written in 1924, 1st published in 1929.¹

Inserts in italic print & endnotes by Wm. John Quinsey, O.L.S. (Ret), C.L.S.

In the following pages I have tried to give a brief outline of my experiences as a Surveyor, from 1866 to 1924. Also a meagre description of the mode of travel and living which prevailed in my early surveying days.

I was born on 8th August, 1852, in the City of Quebec. My parents moved to Toronto in 1855 and returned to Quebec in 1859. In those days the only means of travel was by steamboat in Summer or by sleigh in Winter, as the Grand Trunk Railway was not completed.

The parents of Arthur F. Cotton were Henry Cotton born c. 1818 in England and his wife Eleanor (Ross) born c. 1815 in Province of Quebec of Scottish origin. Henry had a position in the Civil Service, where he became the chief clerk in the office of the Governor General's Secretary. Arthur had two older brothers. William Henry was born Jan. 7, 1848 in Montreal, obtained a 1st class certificate at Royal Military School, Quebec in 1865, and began his military career in 1866 as a 2nd Lieut. in the Quebec Garrison Artillery. Frederick M. born c. 1849 was a bank clerk in 1871. Arthur also had a younger brother John born c. 1854, and sister Eleanor born c. 1858. The family were Anglicans.²

In 1864 a company of Royal Engineers began the survey for fortifications on the Point Levis side of the river, opposite Quebec. It was then that I, as a boy, saw