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Charlie enjoyed sailing and maintained a cottage in Prince Edward Island as well as the one on Pidgeon Lake. He was active in the Clan Donald Society, he enjoyed poetry (which he readily recited off to us) and was a devout Christian.

Having worked with Charlie on and off from 1969 to 1988, I have had the privilege of getting to know him as not only a good solid surveyor, who insisted on doing the job right no matter what the cost but also as a man as honest as the day is long. It is no wonder that he was so well respected in the Cambridge community and that our firm today is called MacDonald-Tamblyn Surveying Ltd.

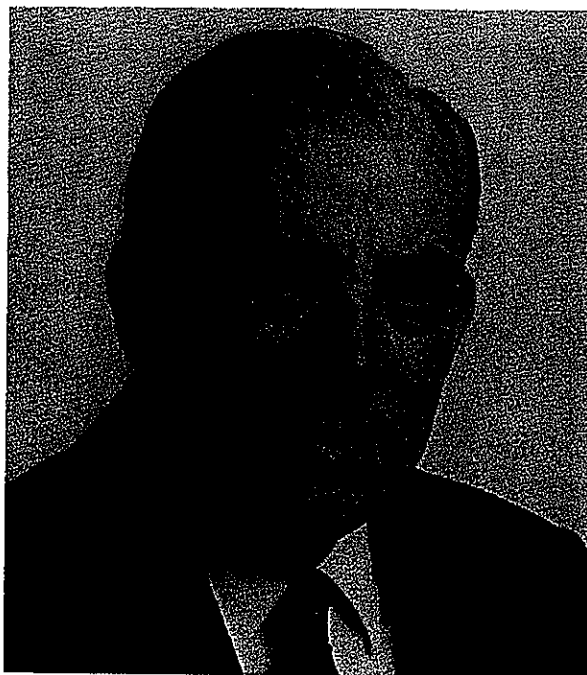
Charlie is buried at his place of birth at Northlake, P.E.I. on a cliff overlooking the ocean. On a calm day you can hear the waves from the sea, the drift of music from the organ and from far away the wail of the pipes.

TADEUSZ (TAD) STASZAK

1915 – 1998

by John Barber OLS

Tad Staszak was born in Inowroclaw, Poland on January 28th 1915. His first association with surveying took place at the age of sixteen when he worked as a Survey Assistant while at the same time studying for his matriculation exams.



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After graduating from school, he completed his mandatory military training in 1938. In September 1939, he was recalled to serve in the infantry against the invading German army. He was taken prisoner by the Germans and spent the remainder of the war in a Prisoner of War camp in Germany. Typical of Tad he made the best of an extremely difficult and trying situation, in fact, during his imprisonment he even became a skilled Ping-Pong player. When he was liberated by the Americans in April 1945, he assisted in the organization and administration of the camps of Polish people who were waiting for repatriation. It was at this time that Tad met Maria and after a very short courtship, they were married in July 1945.

Together Maria and Tad travelled to Italy and enlisted in the 2nd Polish Corps of General Anders, where both served in the Geographic Company. In October 1946, all of the 2nd Polish Corps was transported to England for demobilisation. The English Government formed the Polish Resettlement Corps and offered a wide variety of free training and education to the members of the Corp. Tad chose to study surveying and in two years completed a four year surveying course standing first in his class.

In 1952 Tad and his family became British citizens and in 1953 they emigrated to Canada. From 1953 to 1956 Tad worked for Marshall Macklin Monaghan where he was involved in the surveying of Elliott Lake and pipe line surveys. He articulated to Pat Monaghan on December 7th 1955 and later the next year (1956) transferred his articles to Ronald Benn of Belleville. Tad became Ontario Land Surveyor # 1036 on November 25th 1959.

Tad remained with Ronald Benn until 1965 when he left to join the City of Toronto Surveying Department on January 25th 1965 as an OLS. He remained with the City of Toronto until his retirement on January 31st 1980. With the City Tad progressed to Senior Surveyor on December 13th 1968, to Inspector of Geodetic Surveyors on January 16th 1976 and finally to Co-ordinator of Projects and Mapping in July 1976.

As Inspector of Geodetic Surveys, he was responsible for the installation, observations, adjustment and maintenance of the horizontal and vertical control work for the City of Toronto. Mainly as a result of the efforts and initiative of Tad the control network for the City is one of the densest and best maintained in Ontario. He represented the City of Toronto in all activities associated with the horizontal and benchmark network. He was also a member of the AOLS Geodetic Committee for a number of years.

As Co-ordinator of Projects and Mapping for the City, Tad was responsible for aerial mapping, cartographic overlays, survey plan preparation, property mapping, land subdivision production and maintenance, maintenance and mapping for Zoning By-laws. This responsibility also included co-ordination and gathering of information from a number of Departments and Agencies.

At the City of Toronto Tad was considered to be a very special person. He was well respected both for his technical expertise and people skills. Tad trusted his staff to work on their own, but was always there to provide assistance when needed. He was patient, friendly and treated everyone fairly and evenly. Tad was extremely hard working, dedicated, and led by example. Every lunch Tad and three of his friends could be found playing bridge. Tad was an expert bridge player and had hundreds of master points to his credit. In fact, for more than 30 years Tad played bridge with some of his fellow surveyors who included John Barber, Red Petzold and Ross Burton.

Tad enjoyed and was quite proficient in working with wood. During his retirement he was able to devote more time to this hobby. He and his family had a cottage in Kawartha for 13 years during which time he built from scratch a butcher-block table with benches to accommodate all of his family at meals.

Together with his wife they travelled to all corners of the world enjoying boat cruises and visiting their family members in Australia, England and Africa. Tad was a devoted husband to Maria and father of Margaret, Andrew and Michael. He was both a gentleman and a gentle man.

He will be greatly missed by his many colleagues and family.

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