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WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE (Glad) TAYLOR
(1917 - 1981)

Born in Chicago Illinois in 1917 of Canadian parents, Glad was brought up and educated in the Mimico area. He was the eldest of four boys. Always sports minded, he played hockey and lacrosse and spent his summer holidays as a caddy at local golf courses.

His interest in surveying was sparked by his father, Glad Senior, who was engaged in location and engineering surveys of electrical transmission lines throughout Ontario since the inception of Ontario Hydro until his retirement in 1960.

Glad commenced his working career at the age of 15, being employed during the summers on the survey and construction of power lines in northern Ontario and later on legal surveys in southern Ontario where he worked in parties with such notables as Dick McBain and our present Surveyor General, Bob Code.

He volunteered for the R.C.A.F. in 1941 and served during World War II as a navigator attached to R.A.F. Ferry Command, making numerous trans-ocean flights across the Atlantic to Britain, down into North Africa and across to India. He had many interesting tales to tell of the close shaves and amusing incidents encountered during the course of these trips, one of the highlights being a flight into Russia with a plane load of V.I.P.'s to attend the Yalta Meeting of Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin in 1943.

After completion of service in the R.C.A.F. in 1945, Glad returned to the employ of Ontario Hydro in the land survey section of the old Property Department headed by Harry Williams, O.L.S., to whom he was later articed in 1949. He received his commission as an Ontario Land Surveyor in 1953 and continued with Ontario Hydro until 1956, when he joined Neil Simpson in North Bay to form the partnership of Simpson and Taylor.

During the post war years with Hydro, Glad was employed on a wide variety of survey projects throughout Ontario but primarily in the north. He was known for his drive, persistence and ability to get things done regardless of adverse conditions. He loved to develop a pattern or a formula to suit each individual project. "Taylor-Made for the job" was his expression.

While employed on the "tunnel development" on the Mississauga River in 1947, he met and married the former Eileen Driver of Thessalon. The union was blessed with three sons and a daughter. Glad was a devoted family man and justifiably proud of his children, now all well respected citizens who reflect the many admirable qualities of both parents.

In addition to his family and survey practice, Glad's interests also lay with golfing, boating and minor hockey. He was a member of the United Church, Royal Canadian Legion and 406 Wing of the R.C.A.F. Association. He took a great interest in the Northeastern Group of Ontario Land Surveyors and served as secretary to that organization.

His death came suddenly as the result of a motor accident on December 14, 1981. The position of affection and respect in which he was held by his fellow surveyors is witnessed by the fact that his funeral was attended by thirty-six Ontario Land Surveyors as well as a large number of former employees and associates.