

**Robert Douglas Tomlinson, OLS# 1110**  
**August 18, 1935 – January 27, 2018**



Robert Douglas Tomlinson, OLS#1110, aged 82, passed away peacefully on January 7, 2018, while watching his favorite sport, hockey at his residence in North Bay. Bob was born in Markham Township August 18, 1935. He married Shirley Anne Jones on June 15, 1957 and they had many happy years together. Bob articulated to William Douglas Ratz #726 (Ministry of Transportation), and John Celeste Moore #882 (J.C. Moore Inc.). As a young Ontario Land Surveyor, he worked for Toronto

Transit Commission on the Bloor Street subway, for the City of Toronto, and for Yates and Yates Limited before opening his own practice, R.D. Tomlinson Ltd. in 1968.

In the mid-seventies, Bob partnered with Lloyd & Purcell Ltd. for a brief period under the firm name Lloyd Purcell Tomlinson Ltd. There was also an attempt to create a heavy weight consortium with Edward Carter #1157, David Horwood #1128, Bob Garden #917, Charles Lloyd #679, and James Purcell #969.

Eventually, the group dissolved, and Bob continued his private practice in King. Over the years he articulated many notable future O.L.S.'s including Alfonso Roccaforte #1587, Tom Kristjanson #1722, Bahram Amirnezhad #1976, John Tallieu #1602, Elizabeth Campbell #1652 and Fuzail Siddiqi #1524, whom he also had a brief partnership, before Fuzail's unexpected passing.

Jim Purcell has often said "there is not a more conscientious minded and genuine surveyor than Bob Tomlinson". Bob had an enormous passion for his craft. He was a "surveyors surveyor". He thrived on crashing through forests, surveying in remote Canada, bush camps, mining claims, latest technology (Bob had AutoCad in 1987) and historical research. For him, this was real surveying and he felt every student should experience this as a vital ingredient to becoming an Ontario Land Surveyor. Bob never stagnated, all of his articulated students / O.L.S.'s over the years kept him current with legislation and the AOLS profession in general.

Bob was a character with no shortage of crazy antics. Not surprising for any surveyor. Everyone who knew Bob has a story. Hiding in closets, shuffling papers, lunchtime wind surfing, driving in hockey skates, and numerous fashion statements, including his patented mesh shirts. He used to check plans on an old metal door laid flat on 2 oil barrels behind the office so he could work on his tan. He hated being inside the office.

Bob is survived by his wife Shirley, his two brothers Peter and Paul, his sisters Stella Harrison, and Janet Watson, his three children Rosemary, Bruce (Karen), and Helen and his many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

One of the decent ones, he will be sadly missed.

Submitted by T. Murray Purcell, OLS# 1683