

Kenneth Arthur James Williams, OLS# 827
January 2, 1926 – November 26, 2016



Ken was born on January 2, 1926, the son of Arthur Clyde Williams and Mary Jane Irwin in the city of Welland. He graduated from Queen St. Public Schooling in 1943.

After graduating from high school, he joined the Royal Canadian Army serving during and after the Second World War until May of 1946. His service included attending the University of Toronto Army Course; a member of the Royal Canadian Artillery in Petawawa, Kingston and overseas in England, Holland, and Germany.

The artillery units served in were the 23rd. field regiment, 4th. division and 2nd 13th field regiment 3rd. Division. While overseas and after the war he attended Karki University in England which was operated by the Canadian Army in Leavden just outside Watford.

He attended the University of Toronto from 1956 until graduation in 1950 in Civil Engineering becoming a Professional Engineer in the Province of Ontario the following year.

Upon graduation he joined the CR Hagen Engineering firm of Fort Erie in 1950. While there he also completed his Ontario Land Surveyor Certification. He served an apprenticeship with Maximum T. Gray. While working with this firm, he became the Vice President of the company and was their official Land Surveyor and Professional Engineer. Projects that were worked on included sanitary sewers in Beamsville, water main. And water treatment plants in Vineland, sanitary sewers, water mains, road construction in Grimsby, the same for the towns of Blythe, Caledonia, Welland, Chippewa, and Fort Erie.

In 1959, he left the firm to become the Engineer for the Town of Fort Erie where he was responsible for all of the construction and maintenance of water, sewers, roads, pump stations, building permits and planning within the Town.

In 1966, he left the town of Fort Erie and became the Welland County Engineer. He was responsible for the construction and maintenance of all county roads and bridges. During this time, he also served on the Suburban Roads Commission for the cities of Welland, Niagara Falls and Port Colborne.

In 1970, he was transferred to the newly formed Niagara Region government into their large Public Works Department. He held a variety of roles within this organization including Assistant to the Director, Systems Engineer for water and roads control operations. These were mostly office jobs requiring all of the experience and skills that he had acquired in his previous positions. Many, many reports were prepared for consideration and approval by Regional Council.

In 1988, Ken retired from the region to enjoy a long retirement in Fonthill with his beautiful wife, Iris. They were married for 69 years. They had four children: Donna Starr, Arthur Paul, Susan Jane, and Shellee Ann. All four children married and proceeded to give him 12 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. His wife and family were the love of his life!

Ken loved to fish. He always had a big garden and took great pride in growing tomatoes, onions and cabbage. Every year he and Iris loved to harvest their produce to make pickles, tomato juice sauerkraut, jam and freezing corn and beans.

Ken and Iris enjoyed travelling. They both played golf at Westbrook Golf Club when his brother in law took ownership. Later he joined Lookout Point Golf and Country Club. He loved the game and the camaraderie with others. He may be responsible for all of his family loving the game, too!! Ken had a long and healthy life. His final party was his 90th Birthday that was celebrated with his family. He passed into heaven on Saturday, November 26, 2016.

"A FULL LIFE WELL LIVED"

Submitted by Starr Minor