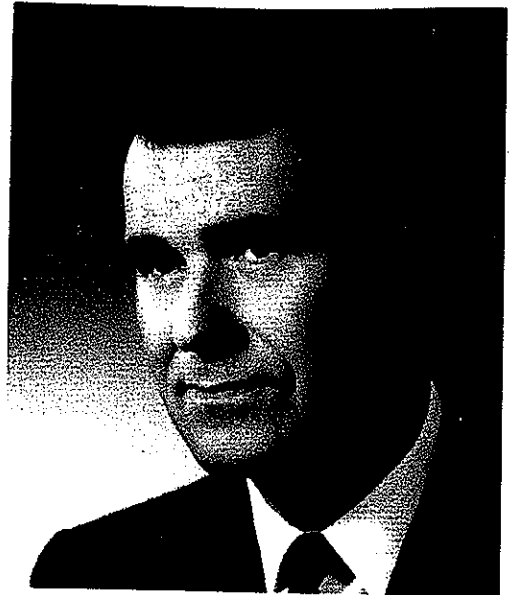


GEORGE LESLIE WILKS, O.L.S.

February 24th 1926 – November 18th 1999

By Allan Reeve Wilks

George Leslie Wilks was born on February 24th 1926 in Wilsonville, Ontario, but in 1935 moved to Galt, Ontario with his family. During World War II, he served as a Signaller in the Canadian Navy. In 1950 he entered the Civil Engineering programme at the University of Toronto. After graduating in 1954, he joined the firm of Marshall, Macklin and Monaghan (MMM) in Toronto, Ontario where he completed the requirements for his O.L.S. commission in June 1955.



For the thirty years he was with MMM, he served in a number of capacities, later becoming an Associate Partner. He was a man who took great pride in his profession and held himself, and those who worked for him, to a high standard of performance. But while he demanded much from others, he gave much in return in the way of genuine friendship and loyalty.

In 1984, my father took early retirement in order to pursue his many hobbies. These included bee keeping and book binding. The former he practised on a lovely 50-acre farm near Durham, Ontario which became, for him, a much loved place of retreat. He was an enthusiastic volunteer in the Rare Books Room of Trinity College at the University of Toronto. He became an active member of the Ontario Beekeepers' Association and the Canadian Association of Bookbinders. He had a tremendous love of music, literature and history and pursued these interests actively as long as he was able.

During the 1990's he was diagnosed with a rare neurological condition: Progressive Supranuclear Palsy. The last 3½ years of his life were spent in Sunnybrook Hospital, Toronto, Ontario. Through the course of this tragic disease, he maintained a resilient and positive spirit, in spite of great suffering. He died peacefully on November 18th 1999. His family rejoices that he now stands healed and immortal in the presence of God.

He leaves his wife, Isabel, three sons: Allan (Fiona) Jonathan (Susan) Ian (Anna) and eight grandchildren.
