

Ontario Land Drainage Practitioner – Biography

Monteith, James, P. Eng.

1927 to 2011



James Monteith, son of J.C. Monteith also a professional engineer and surveyor, grew up in the Town of Petrolia, attended the Petrolia High School and graduated from the University of Toronto in 1951.

After graduation, Jim travelled and was working in New Zealand when his father's health declined. He returned home in 1957 taking over responsibility for the engineering portion of the family business. In 1959, he established J. A. Monteith and Associates, then joined with Gary Ingram to form Monteith-Ingram Engineering Limited, now called MIG Consulting Engineers. Jim's brother Jack assumed the survey side of their father's business.

Jim served as the technical adviser to the the Select Committee on Land Drainage headed by Lorne Henderson MPP that led to the Drainage Act amendments in 1975. He understood the operation of the Drainage Act RSDO 1970 and assisted the committee to understand the workings of the engineer, the report and the municipal by-law. Jim also advised on cases brought to the committee by the public to determine if the case could be solved by the current legislation or if additional review was required. He continued to be active in drainage projects until he passed away in 2011.

Jim was athletic participating in high school football, Western Counties baseball and competitive hockey for the local Petrolia teams. He played intramural hockey at the University of Toronto, playing recreational hockey into his 60's. Jim also played tennis and golf as well as swimming, water skiing and sailing at his cottage in Muskoka. He also piloted of his own small plane.

Active in the community, Jim

- Served as a government appointee on the board of directors of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons
- Served his community including the Charlottes Task Force for local hospital improvements
- Was elected to the Public School Board on the 1960's
- Was treasurer of the local Conservative Party for many years
- Was involved in the building of the arena and golf clubhouse.

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- Supported minor hockey, the St. Andrews Society and his local church
- Was a volunteer driver for the Cancer Society.

Jim married Jill Smith and they had two daughters, Susan and Nancy.

Known for his williness to offer advice or assistance, Jim was always ready to discuss drainage issues.