



Gus Goutouski

# Former councillor Gus Goutouski dies Monday

*Controversial politician fondly remembered*

By ANGELA BLACKBURN  
The Champion

Former Milton and Halton regional councillor (Gus) Alexander Lawrence Goutouski's death on the D-Day anniversary was a touching end to the life of a proud Canadian, a veteran and an active member of the Milton community. He was 74.

"It was perfect. It was ironic but it was very touching," his daughter, Laura Baily of Nassagaweya, said yesterday of the timing of her father's death Monday.

Mr. Goutouski, who was no stranger to Milton's business, community or political scenes, lost a long battle with heart ailments.

Born in Toronto, Mr. Goutouski attended Toronto's St. Paul's School, Vaughan Collegiate and Western Tech. He studied printing.

First a sales manager with Agra Business Form, Mr. Goutouski attained his real estate broker's

licence and formed his own company, Halton Real Estate, specializing in rural development in Milton. It is still in operation.

Twenty-eight years ago, Mr. Goutouski and wife Vinni (Vaniglia) settled in Milton on the Town Line between Nassagaweya and Puslinch.

Mr. Goutouski is survived by his wife of 47 years and four children, Bryan of Vienna, Ont., Gary of Honeywood; and daughters, Mikki and Laura, both of Nassagaweya. He's also survived by brothers Ed of Toronto and Tony of Oregon.

"It was quite poetic that he should

pass away on D-Day when he had been part of the Canadian forces that helped liberate Europe," said Ward 1 Councillor Rick Day.

Mr. Goutouski served two years (1978-80) on Milton and Halton Region councils. He once ran for the mayor's job but was "trounced" by Gord Krantz, said Ms. Baily.

One of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, past president of the 344 (Toronto) Royal Canadian Legion and poppy chair of Milton's legion, Mr. Goutouski orchestrated the D-Day anniversary trip of Canadian veterans to Normandy, France a decade ago. His efforts won him a provincial citation.

Founder of the United Way in both Milton and Georgetown, Mr. Goutouski brought Milton the Easter Seals dinner, was a former chair of the Milton District Hospital board, past president of the United Way and Red Cross and worked with Milton's Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club.

"My father fought for the little guy. He was always getting his oar in where he felt there were any injustices done," said Ms. Baily.

"You always knew where you stood with Gus. If Gus had an opinion, he let you know about it," said Ward 2 Councillor Colin Best.

"He was well-versed on the issues. He was a good debater and he was well respected by all of us for his opinion," said Mr. Day, recalling that Mr. Goutouski helped finalize the Milton Highway 401 industrial park rezoning.

A vigil will be held at 8 p.m. tomorrow (Thursday) at Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church, followed by a funeral mass Friday at 11 a.m., same venue. It is requested that donations go to the Milton District Hospital Foundation or the Hamilton Civic General Hospital ICCU.

## Brookville teachers develop unique study

A group of teachers at Brookville Public School has received funding from the Halton Board of Education to develop a unit of study on global issues.

The three main areas of study will include environmental concerns, interdependency of cultures upon one another, and the diversity among people.

"From knowledge on local issues, we want to empower students to make a difference in the world around them," explained teacher Chris Jefferson.

"By focusing on local concerns, we want students to see how people can make a difference and how they can influence our world beginning at home.

The school is particularly interested in getting the community involved to bring some real world connections to what the students will study.

With local experiences as an example, the school hopes to encourage students to seek solutions and remove the sense of helplessness in the face of global problems.

"This is new ground for us and we don't know all the possibilities of including the community in our planning process," teacher explained Steve Hallworth.

The team of teachers developing the unit are looking for support from the community.

Anyone belonging to an advocacy group or who might share expertise in the areas of the environmental, cultural interdependence, or diversity of people is asked to contact John Scott at 854-2205.

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