

McDONALD, Duncan



DUNCAN McDONALD

Trenton mayor dies of cancer

TRENTON - Mayor Duncan McDonald died Sunday of cancer in Kingston General Hospital after a lengthy illness.

Mr. McDonald, 65, was the mayor of the city for the past four years but served as mayor from 1970-74 when a job transfer took him to Ottawa.

He retired from the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1978 having attained the position of general manager of passenger service.

Mayor McDonald was first elected to town council in 1960 and served as a councillor until he ran for mayor in 1970, defeating incumbent Jim McDonald.

He returned to Trenton in 1978 after retiring from the railroad and was elected mayor again with a landslide victory over incumbent Robert Patrick.

The Trenton electorate accorded him another overwhelming victory in November 1980 when he defeated Ald. Bob Wannamaker.

One of the projects which McDonald launched during his first term as mayor he saw fulfilled during his second stint in the position.

Negotiations to get the CPR and other government agencies to widen the narrow underpass on Sidney Street got under way in the early 1970s.

The governments and the railway finally came up with the money in 1979 and the underpass was constructed and Sidney Street widened to four lanes.

One of his proudest moments as mayor occurred on July 1, 1980, when he declared the town a city. This was during the city's centennial year.

One of the crowning achievements of Mayor McDonald was also the purchase of a piece of land from the CPR.

The two-acre piece of land between Benedict Proctor and the MacDonald bridge was valued by Marathon Realty at \$115,000.

After negotiations with the mayor the CPR eventually agreed to sell the land to the city for \$20,000. With the use of NIP funds the city paid only \$5,000 for the parcel.

Plans are going ahead for this area to be turned into a park.

He also considered the highlight of 1981 the reconstruction of Water Street. The reconstruction of this street now means the city has two four lane roads leading into the city from Highway 401.

Mayor McDonald was born in Toronto and married the former Joanne Filion, of Trenton.

Mayor McDonald is survived by his wife, two sons, Steve and John, a daughter, Mrs. David (Bonnie) Fox and four grandchildren.

A funeral mass will be celebrated 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Peter's Catholic Church.

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