

In Loving Memory

## High Flight

O, I have slipped the surly bonds of earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings.

Sunward I've climbed and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds - and done a hundred things

Vou have not dreamed of - wheeled and soared and swung

High in the sunlit silence. Hovering there,
I've chased the shouting wind along and flung

Ny eager craft through footless halls of air

Up, up the long delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, or even eagle, flew,
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,

But out my hand and touched the face of God.

## OBITUARY

## **BARRY LEWIS GARTNER**

An engineer and former RCAF test pilot, Wing Commander (Lt. Colonel) Barry L. Gartner was a model of professionalism and integrity and indeed had all the "right stuff". He died at his home in Ottawa on June 3 after a long battle with cancer.



Barry was born in Toronto in 1933 and was brought up in Kirkland Lake and North Toronto.

As a young guy who wanted to get to know people, he ended up in school choirs, on the football and basketball teams and as commander of all cadets at North Toronto Collegiate. He graduated from the University of Toronto with a degree in Electrical Engineering which

was to help him excel in the Telecommunications classification of the Regular Officer's Training Program which he joined in 1952.

As Barry said, "In the summer of 1953, I managed a back seat ride in a Harvard Trainer airplane, and realized what life was really about". He then progressed quickly through the ranks to Wing Commander (Lt. Col.) in 1969.

Barry displayed great courage, honesty and leadership all through his military career. He was well known for his persistence and professionalism and how to do a flight test program the right way. Many associates believed that these qualities would help Barry play a leading role in the Air Force but heart problems in 1974 sadly put an end to his flying career.

Barry continued to be active in the military as a civilian Director of Manpower Control and Organization and Deputy Director of Procurement with DSS in the CF-18 Project Office where he could again work with aircraft. He finally retired in 1992 at age 59. Barry's last and one of his proudest achievements with the military was to initiate the recently announced NATO Pilot Training Program, a 2.85 billion dollar deal which will see Canadian and NATO pilots trained in Canada through public/private cooperation where the trainers are airforce personnel and the rest provided by private enterprise.

Barry sought a quieter lifestyle in his last 15 years and moved to Amherst Island in 1987 with his wife Laura. He joined the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 539 and was an interested and active member of the Island community. Barry found great peace and joy in his years on Amherst Island and loved the Island way of life.

Barry is survived by his wife Laura, daughter Laura Lee and sons Raymond and Sean, brother John, sisters Nancy Henshaw, Dianne O'Connell and their families.

Barry touched many lives and leaves behind so many people who loved and admired him.