



Roman Chrzanowski checks out an X-ray at the Georgetown hospital. The long-time hospital worker was a big sports fan. (Photo submitted)

# Roman will be missed

By LEN LANDRY  
Herald Special

You know, the only good thing about the Mississauga train disaster several years ago, was that I gained a friend out of the deal.

Many homes in the area near the derailed, chemical-laden train had to be temporarily abandoned because of toxic fumes. Our hospital's Chief Radiology Technician was one of those unfortunate victims of circumstance. As he sadly made his way out of the hospital emergency department that night, duffelbag in tow, Roman Chrzanowski (pronounced Kriz-a-now-skee) asked if I knew of any good motels in town.

"Of course you realize that I have been evacuated," he said to me in a mournful but matter-of-fact fashion, downcast eyes aimed at the floor.

I insisted that he stay with my wife and I, until the whole Mississauga mess had been clean-

ed up.

Yes, I gained a friend that night, a friend who demonstrated an incredible amount of knowledge about many subjects: nuclear medicine, politics, and especially sports, sports of all kinds. As we shared some beer and bad jokes, it became clear that his favorite fancy was tennis, and he prided himself in his ability.

I recall watching an NFL game with Roman, and marvelling at his grasp of North American football. He, in turn, was quite impressed with how I picked up on the rather unusual spelling of his Polish surname. I told him that it wasn't too difficult for someone whose mother's maiden name was pronounced "Jay-jik", and spelled "dziedzic."

The years have gone by quickly since that night, and, for Roman, the often-threatened retirement became reality in late June. I'll always remember his happy, well-tanned face, wrinkled with wit and

wisdom, as he sat at a makeshift table in the X-ray department, enjoying a farewell dinner with his radiology colleagues.

"Kind of like the Last Supper," someone remarked, and we laughed.

Indeed, the words were sadly prophetic.

Roman was found in his apartment, less than a week into his retirement. He had passed away just before what would have been his 67th birthday.

We miss you, Roman, old friend, but I have this funny feeling that you're enjoying it where you are now, teaching the big fellow that famous backhand tennis shot of yours, and tormenting Him with some of those oh-so-bad stories and jokes.

Take care, old friend, and put a good word in for us when you have a minute, when you finish that tale. Some of us need all the help we can get...

## Check out square dances this month

Pine Valley Square Dance Club of Georgetown will be sponsoring two free dances - Sept. 13 and 20 - to introduce citizens to the fun of modern square and round dancing. Pineview Public School, at Trafalgar Road South and Regional Road 5 will be the location of these dances from 8 to 10:30 p.m.

The group, which is affiliated with the Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department, will also be performing at the Acton Fall Fair on Sunday, Sept. 17 as part of a "Western" type entertainment program, and participated in the Dance-a-Thon for Muscular Dystrophy, at the Airport Hilton, Sept. 3 and 4.

Dance nights for newer dancers will begin on Sept. 27 at Pineview Public School. For more experienced square and round dancers, the season begins on Tuesday, Sept. 19, from 8 p.m. to 10:15 p.m., at George Kennedy Public School, Weber Dr., Georgetown.

For information, please call Presidents Marj and Bill Douglas at (519) 853-3678 or Membership Convenors Norma and Carson Rae, at 877-3002.

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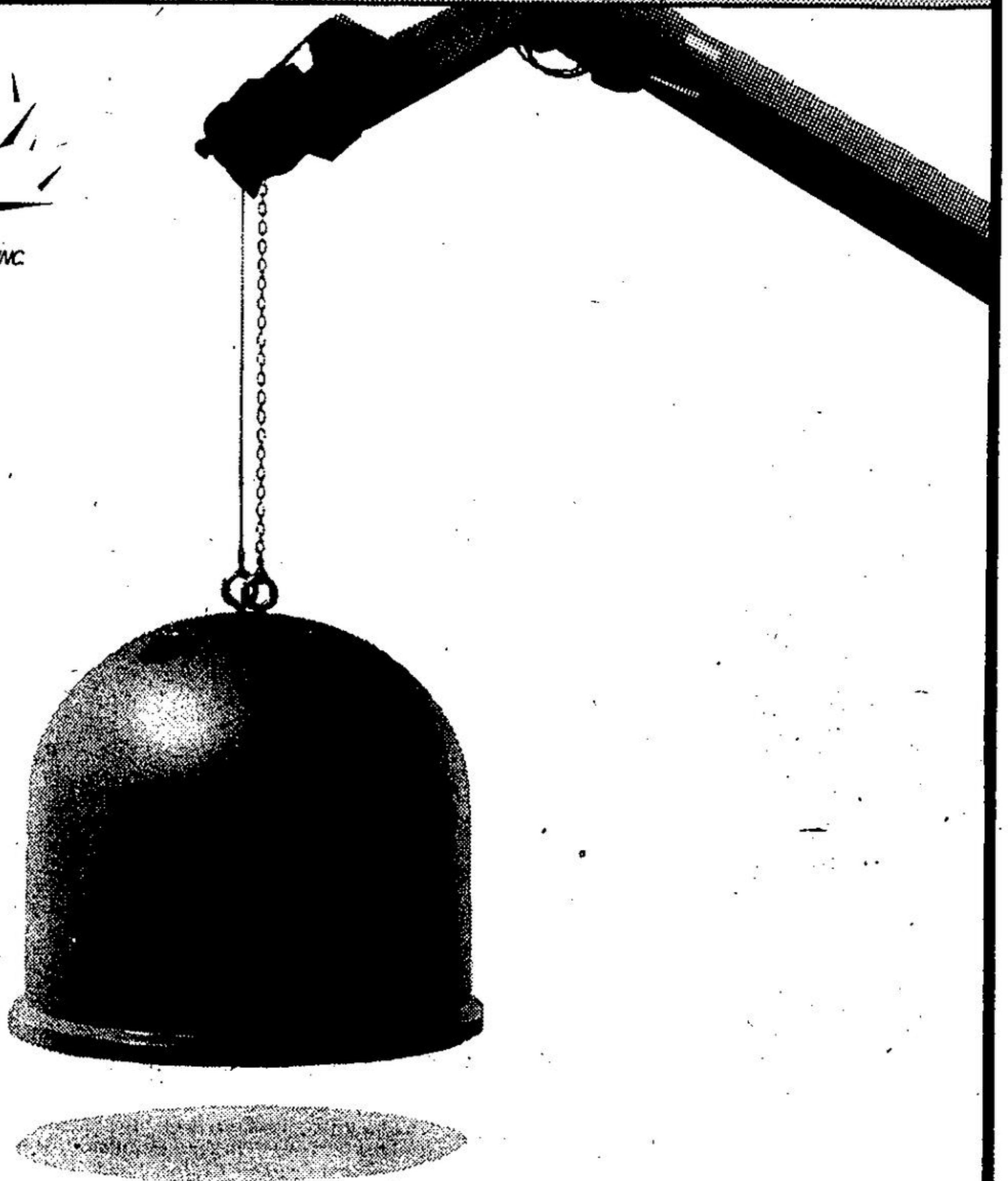
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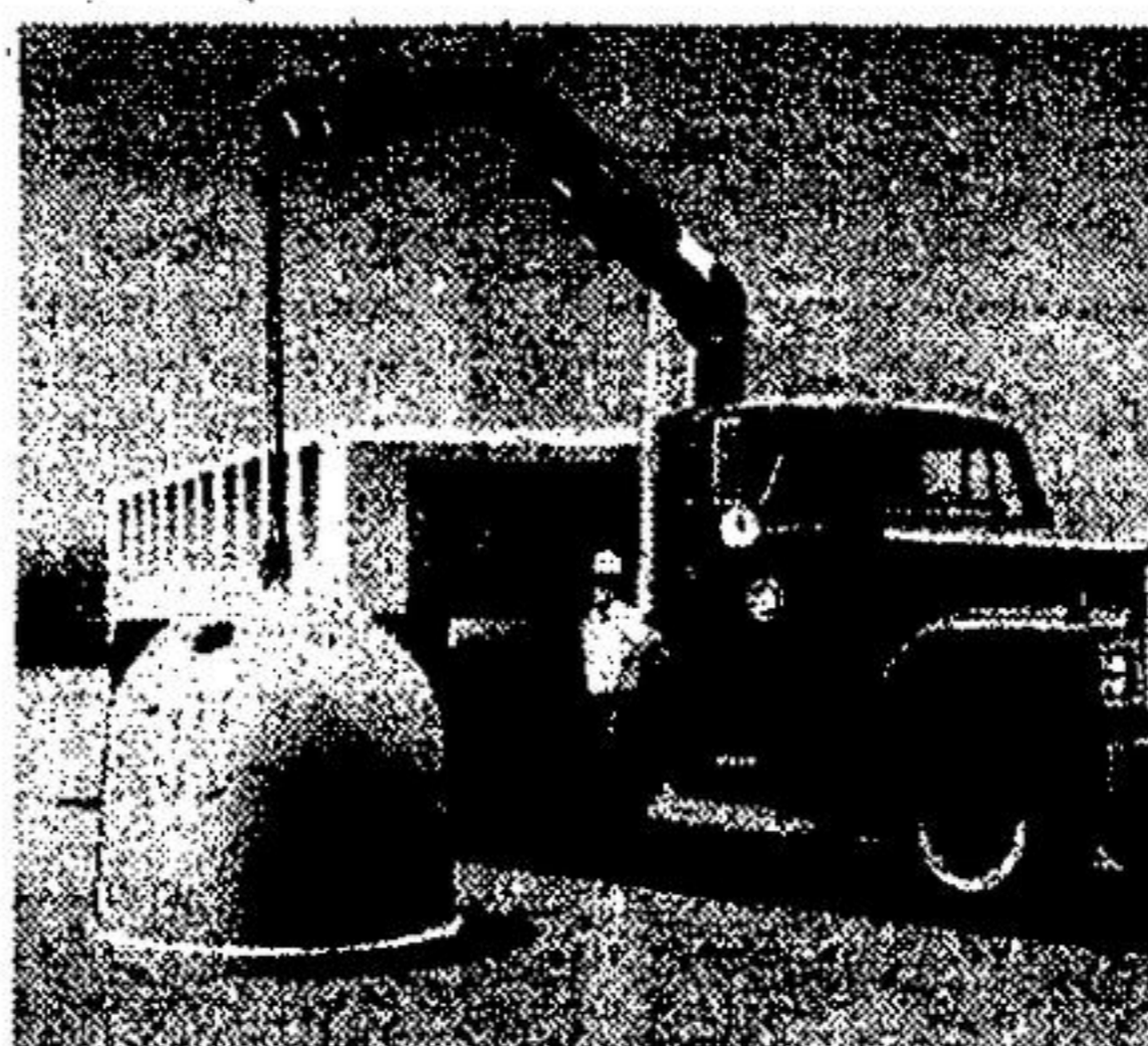
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