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For more than 30 years, Mike Ledwith owned and operated Ledwith's Food Market at Main and Martin streets, which became Quality Greens.

Ledwith put heart, soul into serving town: Krantz

• from SAYING on page A1 related to him," she said.

But it was the personal connection she had with him that will remain in her heart.

"He inspired and guided me, first as a child and then as I grew into adulthood," she said.

The service for the long-time St. Paul's United Church member was held at Grace Anglican Church due to last week's fire at St. Paul's.

Ledwith was born in England, and after arriving in Canada with his family, settled in Dundas. He enlisted and served in the Canadian — and then British — navies overseas in the Second World War and moved to Milton in 1946. He opened a small grocery store at Main and Martin streets — what later became Quality Greens.

Ledwith's accomplishments in town are many and include serving as mayor (in 1957) and as a founding member of the Rotary Club of Milton. He was on the hospital board, school board, and was president of Milton Evergreen Cemetery.

He's been named Citizen of the Year, earned a Lifetime Achievement Award and, most recently, was named Milton's Senior of the Year for 2010.

He married three times and outlived each wife.

Mayor Gord Krantz, who knew Ledwith for about 60 years, spoke of how his friend put his heart and soul into serving his community.

"Mike was a great Miltonian,"
Krantz told the crowd of about 100.
"Did he adopt Milton as his home?
No. Milton adopted Mike."

Fellow Rotary Club member and close friend Ries Boers said Ledwith was the epitome of a volunteer and served as his mentor in business and in life.

"When I bought my business, I tried to emulate his business practices," he said.

The pair sometimes took roadtrips together, one of the most recent being to Ledwith's father's grave in Dundas.

"He was happy," Boers said, choking up.

In addition to his grandchildren and a great-granddaughter, Ledwith is survived by his three children, their spouses and his brother.

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