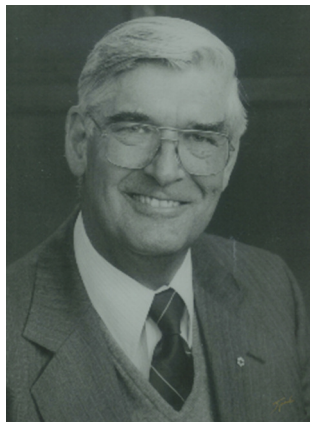


## Dr. Robert James Uffen

O.C., Ph.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.C., P. Eng

September 21st, 1923 – July 18th, 2009



It is with great sadness that the family announces the passing of Dr. Robert James Uffen of Kingston Ontario on Saturday July 18th, 2009 at the age of 85 years after a lengthy battle with T-Cell lymphoma. Robert Uffen was predeceased by his loving wife, Mary Ruth in 1994 in Kingston, Ontario. He will be deeply missed by his son Rob Uffen, his daughter Joanne Brand, his son-in-law Ed Brand and their children Jamie Brand (Sarah), Julie Runions (Chris) And John Brand. Robert Uffen was predeceased by his parents, Elsie and Fred, his sister, Mary Cobo, his brother Norman, and survived by his eldest brother Jack.

Known to many in academia and industry as a professor in Geophysics, Robert Uffen made numerous contributions in associated fields and often enjoyed intellectual moments with students and interactions with faculty members. Robert Uffen authored numerous articles on geophysics, evolution of the Earth, science policy, nuclear waste and occupational safety. He was an internationally distinguished research geophysicist, professor and university administrator. He was a Canadian delegate to three conferences of the International Union of Geology and Geophysics at Rome in 1954, Toronto in 1957 and Helsinki thereafter. He was awarded the Centennial Medal of Canada in 1967, and became an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1983. He was a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering. He received a Distinguished Service Award from Queen's University in 1990 and the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal in Canada in 2002. Robert was an active member of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists and the Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists.

Robert Uffen was born in Toronto, Ontario in 1923 where he graduated from Danforth Technical School of Toronto in 1941. Robert served in the Second World War as a Private with the Royal Canadian Artillery Infantry Corps in 1941-1942 and served till 1945 when he retired as a

Lieutenant. He received a B.A.Sc. in Engineering Physics in 1949, an M.A. in Geophysics in 1950, both from the University of Toronto. He joined the faculty of University College, University College in 1951 as a lecturer in physics. Robert received his PhD in 1952 from the University of Western Ontario. In 1953, He was appointed Assistant Professor of Physics and Geology and became an Associate Professor in 1957. The following year, he became a full professor and he was chosen to head the

newly created Department of Geophysics. He was also acting head of the physics department since July 1960. Robert became Dean of Science at the University of Western Ontario in 1965. He was affiliated with the National Research Council from 1963-1966, Chairman of the Defense Research Board of Canada in Ottawa from 1967-1969 and Chief Science Advisor to Pierre Elliot Trudeau's Cabinet, Privy Council Office, from 1969-1971. He became Dean of Applied Science of Queen's University in 1971 and held this post until 1980. He was a professor of geophysics until he retired in 1989. Robert was Vice-Chairman of Ontario Hydro from 1975-1979 and was Commissioner of the Ontario Royal Commission on Asbestos from 1980-1984, and Commissioner of Truck Safety from 1981-1983. He held memberships and offices in a number of societies, including the National Research Council of Canada, the Science Council of Canada and the Club of Rome.

Bob as he was known to family and friends was an accomplished amateur artist who documented his travels with paintings and sketches. He and Mary Ruth loved going to auctions and Bob developed a huge interest in restoring antique chairs. Bob loved to sing and play the harmonica. While a resident of Kingston, Ontario, he enjoyed many happy summers at his home at Lake Muskoka.

Dr. Robert (Bob) Uffen will be missed by family, friends, students and colleagues. R