

Jack Braithwaite, Aug. 16-78 MT former fire chief

Funeral services were held Friday for the "father of the fire department" in Mississauga, Jack Braithwaite, who died last Wednesday in Peel Memorial Hospital after a long illness. He was 81.

Braithwaite was the chief of the Township of Toronto Fire Department from 1954 to his retirement in 1967. Prior to becoming chief, he was with the volunteer fire department in Cooksville.

Mayor Ron Searle told general committee last week that Braithwaite was the "father of the fire department," and noted that his son Bill is a captain with the Mississauga Fire Department. His grandsons Robert and Jack are also firefighters.

Searle said that although Jack had been ill, he "maintained an indomitable spirit to the end. He will be missed by his colleagues."

Mississauga Fire Chief Joe Miller joined the Township of Toronto force in 1956 to serve as deputy-chief under Braithwaite.

Miller called him a "very strong little man" and praised him for dedication to his job. He said he didn't know of

anyone who would have been more competent at his post than Braithwaite.

"He had all the right qualities to lead men and build the foundations of the department around him," Miller told The Times.

Funeral services were at Turner and Porter Chapel on Hurontario Street, with a fire department honor guard. A private interment was held at Parklawn Cemetery, Toronto.

Braithwaite was married to the late Lulu Bunker. He was a member of the Mississauga Masonic Lodge, number 523 A.F. and A.M., and the Rameses Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Toronto.



Jack Braithwaite