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# Priest, politician David Busby killed in Caribbean air crash

Reverend David Busby, a former Streetsville priest who came within a whisker of one the biggest upsets in Mississauga political history, has died.

Busby was killed Monday in a plane crash just off the Caribbean Island of St. Vincent. He and Rev. Ronald Armstrong were in the area doing missionary work.

On Sept. 18, 1975, Busby came within 385 votes of upsetting Terry Jones in the first-ever election held in the provincial riding of Mississauga North. The Tories had held the area since the 1930s and Busby's showing was considered an astonishing accomplishment.

Busby's supporters actually celebrated his win based on television reports before it was discovered he'd been edged out.

That evening Busby commented that "I intend to go on contributing to the community in making this one of the very best places in the whole world to live." He



**BUSBY**

lived up to those words by volunteering with a long series of community programs.

The soft-spoken Busby was known for his social conscience. He was director of a program called Street Haven in Metro Toronto in the 1960s which provided counselling to street kids. He was rector of Streetsville's Trinity Anglican Church from 1964-71.

A former professor at the University of Toronto's Wycliffe College, Busby and his wife Norah moved to Barrie several years ago. Norah was a trustee on the Peel Board of Education for several terms, ending in 1980.

Busby recently retired as rector of the church where he had been preaching in Barrie.

"We're most distressed. He was so well known" Edna Toth, the current president of the Mississauga North NDP said yesterday. "He was always a source of strength to whoever was the candidate and he often came back to help."