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FRED CARUK
Community activist

***Frank Caruk:
Man behind
special vehicle
hand controls***

The designer and manufacturer of the first set of vehicle hand controls for handicapped motorists has passed away.

Fred Caruk, founder and owner of Master Welding Limited on Lakeshore Rd. East, moved to Mississauga to work on the construction of fuel storage tanks in Clarkson and Port Credit almost 40 years ago.

His business, which has been in the same location on Lakeshore Rd. East since 1962, also served as the first location for the Port Credit Welding School, where he passed on his trade. Caruk later opened a sister school in Toronto.

A master craftsman, Caruk designed the first set of hand controls used by a local rehabilitation centre for individuals with physical handicaps, opening the door for a more independent lifestyle for many.

Caruk's talents were also called upon to several intricate sun dials, one of which is located at the York Medical Centre and another, his largest, at Nathan Phillips Square in Toronto.

As an active member of the Ramses Shrine Club, Caruk spent time working on the Shrine Circus to raise money for children's hospitals.

After his retirement to his farm in Acton, Caruk continued to hold the Shriner's Club annual turkey shoot.