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# City manager Ed Halliday quietly prepared for growth

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Ed Halliday never wanted the job as Mississauga's city manager, but once it was handed to him, he carried it out with a quiet competence that typified his long career as a public servant.

Halliday, Mississauga's second manager from 1977-85, died suddenly on Friday. He was 74.

The former commissioner of the City of Mississauga's recreation & parks department assumed the top job when it came open in 1977.

"He made it clear he wasn't interested in the job," said Jerry Love, who worked with Halliday for almost 30 years. Love followed Halliday as the top man in recreation & parks.

A reluctant Halliday was drafted for the job by senior City staffers and by councillors who admired his calm leadership skills.

Halliday's ability to negotiate and bring people together in a gentle manner, without confrontation, was just what the City needed at the time, said former mayor Ron Searle. "He didn't want it, but he did one hell of a job once he got in."

"We chose him over a lot of outside people," said Hazel McCallion, who became mayor the year after Halliday's appointment. "He was very calm and collected. He proved himself there as a very capable manager."

Born in Long Branch, Halliday moved to Port Credit at age 13. He graduated from Port Credit High School and worked as a carpenter before being hired in 1955 by the Township of Toronto as a foreman to start its park system.

In an interview with the local Heritage Foundation four years ago, Halliday was asked about his major accomplishments.

"Being able to organize the staff to the point where they could cope with all the development that was coming in," he said.

After his retirement, Halliday was an active member of the Friends of the Valley and the Mississauga Garden Council.

Halliday, who had undergone heart valve surgery several months ago, died of a brain hemorrhage.

He is survived by his wife Anne. They had four children: Kathie, Heather, Christopher and the late Steven.



Ed Halliday served as city manager from 1977-85