

1994 Biog - Kennedy, Harold

## End of an era

Press News - July 17, 1994

It would be hypocritical to say we're sorry that Ward 1 councillor Harold Kennedy has announced he will not be seeking re-election for an eleventh term of office this fall. In each of the past two election campaigns we endorsed other candidates over Kennedy, whom we felt had lost the edge we expect of our city representatives.

But that doesn't mean we don't recognize the man's accomplishments over a 26-year career in local government, or that there are a great many people in Lakeview and Port Credit who will be very sorry to see their long-time champion at city hall withdraw from public life.

Kennedy's slow-talking, non-confrontational, low-key style kept him largely in the background when council tackled major projects or issues, but year in and year out it suited his constituents just fine. He built his career servicing them, often personally, when they had problems with City services, building regulations, parking and so on.

Kennedy's withdrawal from public life also heralds the end of 91 years of virtually continuous public service by members of the Kennedy clan in the local area and in provincial politics. It's an enviable record in community building which should never be forgotten. Hazel McCallion's name may be synonymous with Mississauga nowadays, but Harold Kennedy's uncle, Thomas L. Kennedy's name was synonymous with Peel and Toronto Township during a career that spanned from 1903 to 1958.

The Kennedy name is already immortalized on Tomken Rd., Kennedy Rd. and at T.L. Kennedy Secondary School. Perhaps a school or street in Lakeview will someday be renamed for Harold. It wouldn't be undeserved.