

## McCallion leaves mark on community

# Good neighbor Sam named top citizen

Sam McCallion, a man whose life was dedicated to service — of family, church and community — has been named Mississauga's Citizen of The Year.

The announcement was made by award sponsors The Mississauga News and the Mississauga Real Estate Board this week.

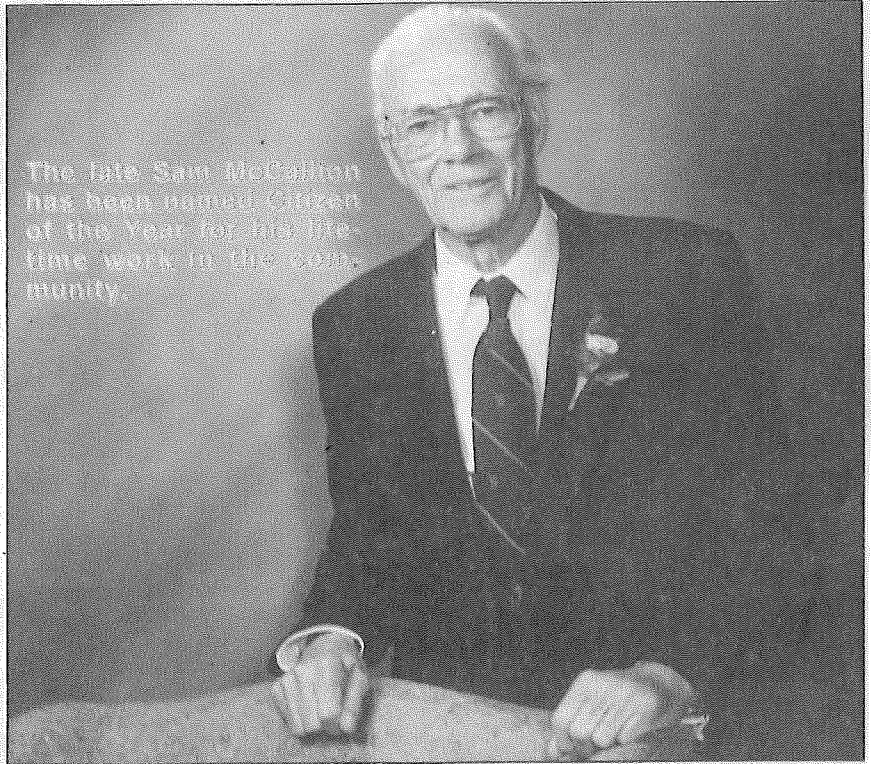
McCallion, who died at age 73 on May 14, was a long-time Streetsville resident and publisher of The Booster newspapers. He was the husband of Mayor Hazel McCallion.

McCallion was chosen by the Citizen of the Year selection committee based on his lifetime service to the community.

"Sam made an impact on Streetsville and Mississauga," said Judy Imerson, chair of the selection committee. "His dedication and hard work in making this community a better place to live is unsurpassed."

Over the years, McCallion was a staunch supporter of the community through his newspaper, The Streetsville (now Mississauga) Booster, a paper started as a public service to the community in 1963, and an offshoot of his Unique Printing company that he began in 1955.

A member of the Streetsville Rotary Club and The Probus Club of



The late Sam McCallion has been named Citizen of the Year for his lifetime work in the community.

Streetsville, McCallion helped institute the Streetsville Chamber of Commerce shortly after founding his business. As its president, he established the

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# Outstanding citizens honored

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Streetsville Citizen of the Year Award.

He also founded Streetsville's Bread and Honey Festival, the city's largest such event, that is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

But most of McCallion's work was done with little fanfare as he chose not to step into the limelight to accept his much deserved praise.

"He was unpretentious, never asking for recognition. He was a strong team player. He was just a good, strong, solid citizen," said longtime neighbor and friend Ralph Hunter, said. "He was the epitome of what a good community-minded person is."

McCallion also served his church community where he was a lay reader at Trinity Anglican Church in Streetsville.

In 1992, McCallion received the Governor General's Commemorative Medal for the 125th Anniversary of Confederation for significant contribution to compatriots, community and Canada.

In 1994, he was awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship Award, Rotary International's highest honor for dedication to fellow citizens.

In 1997, the Streetsville Lions Club and The Mississauga Booster created the first annual Sam McCallion Volunteer of the Year Award.

McCallion is still being honored on numerous fronts.

Last week, the Mississauga Board of Trade announced it would rename its Small Business Community Involvement Award in Sam McCallion's name. The

award will go to a businessperson or firm that believes in being part of its community.

Awards committee chair, Pat O'Neill said no one better epitomized the award's spirit than McCallion.

And, to start this year's Bread & Honey Festival (June 6, 7 and 8) the Sam McCallion Foundation will be launched that includes contributions to the Alzheimer's Society and grants for youth programs.

A June 6 benefit dinner at the Delta Meadowvale Resort will kick start the foundation fund.

Mike Toth, a long-time associate of McCallion, nominated the former publisher for the award.

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## at City Hall reception

"Sam has done so much for the community, said Toth. "He was not just a respected community leader. He was a man with a vision and this shouldn't be forgotten. Behind every great man there is an outstanding woman in Sam's case he was the great man behind the outstanding woman. And I

am delight to hear that he has been chosen as Mississauga's citizen of the year. I don't know a more deserving person."

McCallion and other outstanding citizens will be honored at the Annual Civic Celebration tomorrow, from 4-7 p.m. in the Great Hall at City Hall.