

76 years of age

Peel  
B107 Bk  
April 21-91  
MN

# Donald Pallett: Patriarch of famous Mississauga family

Donald Pallett, the patriarch of one of the most famous farming families in Mississauga, died this week of a heart attack. He was 76 years old.

Pallett suffered a heart attack last Saturday as he prepared to go to work at the Pleasant View Farms in the Dixie community which his son David now operates.

Pallett was born on his family's Dixie farm in 1921 and worked on the property most of his life. When the Second World War broke out Pallett wanted to enlist in the military but Col. T.L. Kennedy convinced him he would be more valuable providing food for the fighting men. Instead, he created a camp for farm workers on his property. Many of those buildings would ultimately become part of the Pleasant View garden market on Dundas St.

Joining the Lorne Scots militia as an alternative to the military, Pallett rose to the rank of major.

Pallett was also active in his community in many other ways. He was chairman of the Dixie Public

School Trustees, and was instrumental in developing the Dixie Fruit and Vegetable Growers Co-op in the late 1940s.

He eventually became president of the Ontario Vegetable Growers' Association.

A long-time active member of Bethesda United Church, Pallett joined the Cooksville Dixie Rotary Club just three months after its founding and remained active for many years, serving as president in 1964-65. He became a Paul Harris fellow in 1981.

Pallett married Mary Turner in 1940 and they had five children before her death in 1958. He subsequently met and married widow Pauline Barber of Orangeville who had two children including Bill, who is now curator of the Peel Museum.

The funeral was held Wednesday at Bethesda Church with burial at the St. John's Dixie cemetery. Pallett is survived by his children Stephen, David, Susan, Bill, Nancy, Sandra, Joanie and their families, including 18 grandchildren.