Former MP John Pallett dead at 64 Rod Brog BK.



JOHN PALLETT in his MP days

John Pallett, former Conservative MP for Peel and a pillar of the city's legal community, died suddenly last week at the age of 64.

Several hundred people attended the funeral services Monday at St. Peter's Church in Erindale.

Pallett was born on a farm in the Dixie community and spent almost all of his life in the community. He practised law with his brother Leslie for many years and, later in his career, had the pleasure of having his son Drew join the practice. His daughter Megan is a student-at-law with the firm.

A statement issued by the family said Pallett died last Thursday while

hunting "in the Georgian Bay countryside he loved so much." He suffered a heart attack.

During World Ward II, Pallett served with the Governor General's Horse Guards in Italy and was mentioned in dispatches for gallantry in the field.

He entered politics in Peel in 1954, winning a seat for the Conservatives. He was later a strong supporter of Prime Minister George Diefenbaker and eventually served as the Chief's parliamentary secretary. Pallett was one of the pallbearers at Diefenbaker's funeral.

Pallett's life in Mississauga was marked by his distinguished community service, especially to Mississauga Hospital.

He was one of the founding members of the hospital's board of directors in 1953 and served in that capacity for the next nine years. He was the hospital's solicitor for all of its 32 years of existence.

In November of 1971, Pallett also became a charter member of the Mississauga Hospital Foundation which raises funds. He has served as a president of the Foundation for its past six years.

Hospital administrator Merritt Henderson noted that Pallett was involved in fundraising "each and every time the hospital had to go to the community" for funds, "He was a

very good friend of the hospital," added Henderson.

Pallett served as the solicitor for the Peel Board of Education for a total of 38 years. He was also active in the Canadian Bar Association and the Law Society of Upper Canada.

During his career in the House of Commons, which spanned eight years, she was a strong supporter of the Commonwealth and was chairman of the Canadian delegation to NATO.

Pallett is survived by his wife of 38 years, Mary Virginia Leuty, and by his children, James McCormack, Bruce Cameron, Drew Malcolm, and Megan Jane.