

S# 37

2 The Mississauga News—January 2, 1991

Police mourn death of officer

Peel Regional Police say they are devastated by the loss of an outstanding officer who died unexpectedly on Boxing Day.

Constable Vittorio (Vic) Pessot, 37, was opening presents Christmas Day at his Orangeville-area home with his wife Lorie and three daughters, aged nine, seven, and three when he suddenly collapsed. He was taken to hospital in Orangeville where his condition deteriorated.

Plans were underway to transfer the Sudbury native to Toronto General Hospital when he died. An autopsy failed to reveal the cause of death but a virus is suspected. Pessot had been complaining of flu-like symptoms.

"We're devastated by it," Staff Inspector Noel Catney



**VITTORIO
PESSOT**

remarked of the sudden loss. "He had an impeccable career with us and he was looked on to continue upward through the organization."

A graduate of Sheridan College in 1972 and Laurentian University in 1976, Pessot began working in hotel management, but always wanted to pursue a police career. He joined Peel Regional Police in 1981 and distinguished himself while with the uniform division. Pessot later joined the morality division where he was involved in several undercover operations and major drug investigations.

"He was very devoted to the youth of the community," recalled Insp. Catney. "He would spend some 50 nights a year lecturing to youth about the dangers of drugs. He would often ask some of the addicts he had befriended to come and give talks." Pessot was also heavily involved in local sports. His community activities won him the distinguished law enforcement officer-of-the-year award from the Caledon Optimist Club in October.