

In Memoriam - G.W.I. "Wilf" Creighton

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IN MEMORIAM

CREIGHTON, G.W.I. "Wilf" - Wilf Creighton died Sunday, August 17, 2008, as he had wished, at his home in Halifax.

He was born in Halifax in May of 1904 and attended the Halifax Academy and then Dalhousie University. In 1926, he received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Dalhousie. He then studied forestry at UNB in Fredericton and graduated in 1929 with a B.Sc. in Forestry. Between 1931 and 1934 he pursued postgraduate studies in forestry in Germany at the University of Munich and at the Schools of Forestry at Eberswalde and Tharandt. Before his appointment with the Province of Nova Scotia, Wilf had worked with the International Paper Co., The Dominion Forest Service and the Canada Power and Paper Corporation. In 1934 he became Provincial Forester and in 1948 the Deputy Minister for the Nova Scotia Department of Lands and Forests. He had a knack of solving problems by walking to the source and dealing with these using wit and common sense.

Wilf was very active in a number of professional organizations over his life including the Canadian Institute of Forestry, Canadian Forestry Association, Forest Products Association of Nova Scotia, Maritime Lumber Bureau and Lunenburg Christmas Tree Producers Association. He served as national president of the Canadian Institute of Forestry. In 1952 he received an honorary D.Sc. degree from UNB and in 2004 an honorary doctorate from Dalhousie University. In his later years he was still very interested in and concerned for the environment. After his retirement in 1969 he spent a great deal of time at his woodland and blueberry fields near Middle Musquodobit. He was a longtime member of the Gyro, Halifax Curling and Probus clubs and was a 33rd degree Mason. He also was a member of the Halifax Wildlife Association.

Wilf was the last surviving member of the family of the late Catherine and Graham Creighton. He is survived by his daughter, Beth McGee, and son, Hugh Creighton; and by grandchildren, Dana McGee, Andrea McGee (Mike Baxter), Victoria Creighton, along with his great-grandson, Peyton McGee-Baxter. He was predeceased by his wife, Helen, and his son, Bob Creighton.

Visitation will take place in J.A. Snow Funeral Home, 2666 Windsor St., Halifax, on Thursday, August 21, between 2 - 4 p.m. and between 6 - 8 p.m. Cremation has taken place at his request. The service of celebration of Wilf's life will be held in St. Andrew's United Church, Robie Street, Halifax, on Friday, August 22, at 11 a.m. followed by a reception in the church hall. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust.

