

Tribute to Lion Paul Olsen, 1944 – 2018

Fellow Lions in the Nobleton Lions Club were shocked with the sudden passing of Lion Paul Olsen on March 3. He had been a strong contributor in all activities of the Club and supporter of many initiatives to make Nobleton a better community. Lion Paul joined the Lions 48 years ago shortly after it had been founded in 1962. He served as Club President in 1975 and again in 2010. He also served a term as Zone Chair with responsibilities for a group of Lions Clubs in the area.

Lion Paul was not only loved by fellow Lions, but true to the Lions code of ethics, he could always be counted on to express his opinions with conviction and in a manner that reflected a strong set of positive values, ultimately living the Lions motto “We Serve”.

Lion Paul was a natural leader. He commanded respect without ever asking for it, his thoughtful words mattered and he was always listened to. He was wise and measured in his approach to issues and decisions affecting the Club. As a consensus builder, Lion Paul would at times, use his sharp business skills and experience to influence opinion and generate change which over the years, contributed to the Lions Club’s relevance and profile in the Community.

Lion Paul was extremely generous with his time; lending a hand, giving a comforting word or inspiring someone to do better, to be better.

Lion Paul was a mentor to many of the Lions and was looked upon as an example for the new Lions and for those seeking higher office. We are grateful for the privilege to have known and worked in service with him.

Over the many years of Lion Paul’s participation in the Nobleton Lions Club, one would be hard pressed to find a single fund raising initiative or event in which he was not fully involved; from the original concept, to implementation, and finally to realization. From the earlier days of the financing of the Nobleton Arena, to the Lions Pool and the lights for the baseball diamond; through the electronic community sign by the Library and defibrillators for Township vehicles, which have the potential to enhance cardiac emergency response time, and more recently, the supply of “Guide Lights” to seniors living at home so emergency responders will be able to locate and assist them quickly, to the partial funding of the new pavilion now under construction. Lion Paul’s invaluable guidance, unwavering support, drive and hard work were crucial to the success of these and many other projects.

Lion Paul was an avid curler and whenever help was needed he rose to the challenge. On behalf of the Lions and the Nobleton Curling Club he spearheaded the fundraising efforts which culminated in the beautiful new facility at the Trisan Centre. Lion Paul was recognized for his many contributions in both the Lions Club and the United Church for which he was named King Township’s “Citizen of the Year” in 2015.

We will miss Lion Paul's sharp mind, contagious smile and great sense of humour, his enthusiasm and support, his encouraging words and friendship. His memories and legacy will carry on, living in our minds and hearts. We will honour Lion Paul's memory by remaining the vibrant and strong Nobleton Lions Club he was so proud of.

In addition to these many volunteering contributions locally Lion Paul also served in a number of capacities to strengthen the Landscape Industry not only in Ontario but across Canada. These accomplishments are noted at the Landscape Ontario's website, <https://horttrades.com/paul-olsen>.