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Moment of silence for former mayor

By Bill Rea

Tuesday's meeting of committees of Caledon council opened with a moment of silence for former mayor John Clarkson.

The second mayor of the Town of Caledon died last Tuesday in British Columbia. He was 80.

He had been involved in local politics for years, sitting at a Township councillor as well as on the first Peel Regional council. He became mayor in 1975, and was in office until the election in 1985, when he declined to seek another term. He also served two terms as a director of the Cowichan Valley Regional District after moving to B.C.

Current Mayor Allan Thompson praised Mr. Clarkson for his work early in the days of the Town of Caledon, helping to define its place in the Greater Toronto Area.

?Clarkson was a political pioneer,? Thompson said.

Mr. Clarkson is survived by his wife Jane (Ferguson), children John, Sandra (Steve), Diane (Leonard), Paul (Kari), Sara (Rob), Johnna-Jane (Warren), David, Susan (Darryl) and Wendy, and niece Debra (Andrew). He was also the grandfather of Lindsey (Eric), Amelia (Ben), Chloe, Wade, Sydney, Russell and Keeley, and great grandfather to Gillian.

A service for Mr. Clarkson was scheduled for yesterday (Wednesday) in Parksville, B.C., followed by cremation. Interment of his ashes is to take place in Boston Mills Cemetery in Caledon at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Oceanside Hospice Society ? www.oceansidehospicesociety.com or Mainstream ? www.mainstreamservices.com