

Terence Wallace James

Birth Location:

Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, UK

Worked For:

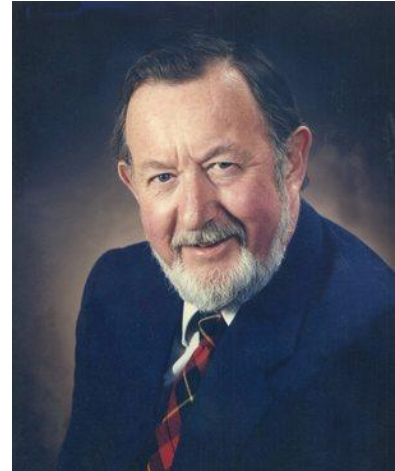
Dowty's Canadian branch, Ajax, ON as Design-Draftsman - worked on the landing gear of the Avro Arrow (CF-105)

Obituary (online):

Terence Wallace James

December 20, 1930 - November 30, 2013

After what he described as a wonderful life, Terence Wallace James, born December 20, 1930, only child of the late Ernest Alfred James and Kathleen Ruth (Robins) James of Cheltenham, Glos., UK, died peacefully surrounded by family at Northumberland Hills Hospital, Cobourg, ON on November 30, 2013. Predeceased by his parents, mother-in-law Grace (Mutton) Samson in 2001, and his wife Germaine (Samson) James in 2010, Terry is survived by daughters, Kathleen James-Cavan (Steve Cavan) and family, Nick, Sophia, and Bryn; Marlene James, and Megan Cayen (Mark Cayen) and family, Sara (Ryan Hawke), Emma, and Hannah. Growing up in wartime England, Dad developed a lifelong passion for aircraft. Completing his education at Cheltenham Grammar School in 1947, Terry apprenticed in the drawing office at Dowty, Cheltenham. In 1953 he immigrated to Ajax, ON to work on the landing gear of the Avro Arrow (CF 105) at Dowty's Canadian branch. Here he met and married Germaine Samson, an X-Ray technician at the new Ajax hospital. In 1960, following the Arrow's cancellation, Terry, Germaine, and their three daughters moved first to Deep River and later Pembroke, ON where he worked as a design-draftsman for AECL (Chalk River), a post he held until retirement in 1990. Although no longer working professionally in aeronautics, he built and flew radio-controlled, scale models of rare historical aircraft. Even in the last month of his life he was at work on a new airplane. When he and Germaine moved to Shiloh, ON he joined the team who painstakingly restored the Halifax NA 337 now installed at the museum at CFB Trenton. Its completion in 2005 was one of his proudest moments. In addition to being an aircraft enthusiast, Terry enjoyed travelling with Germaine and family throughout Canada, the US, and the UK. While some trips coincided with Germaine's rug hooking activities, others, such as the couple's two Caribbean cruises in 2002 and 2005, were simply for fun. Dad was also an avid cook who loved experimenting with new flavours and ingredients. Above all, he was a proud and loving father, father-in-law, grandfather, and nearly great-grandfather whose love of life, a good ale, and the odd political debate will be treasured for a long time. Visitation at 1:00 pm on Friday, December 6 at Heritage United Church (Dundonald site) with the memorial service to follow at 2:00 pm, officiated by the Rev. Victor Parsons. Interment at Shiloh Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family welcome donations in Terry's name to either Palliative Care at Northumberland Hills Hospital (nhh.ca) or the Canadian Warplane Museum at Mount Hope (www.warplane.com). Condolences received at www.MacCoubrey.com. <https://www.maccoubrey.com/service/3497/terence-wallace-james>



Researched by: Barry Copp (2023)