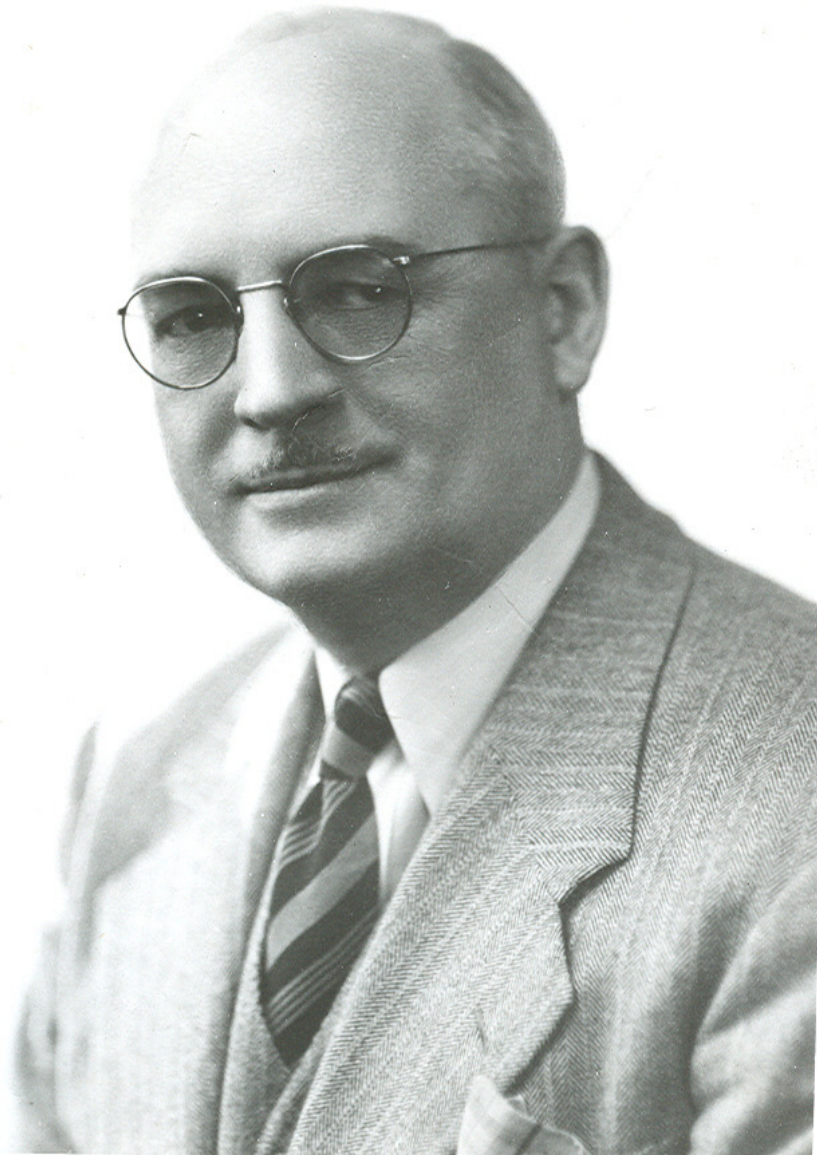


W. SCOTT ROLIFF

William A. Roliff
1904-1991



“Bill” Roliff, as he preferred to be called, was born in North Bay, Ontario and spent his early childhood in the Ottawa area.

His father, a soldier in the Engineers, was killed when Bill was just twelve. As the oldest of four siblings, he had to supplement the meager family income, leaving little time for formal schooling. He received much of his secondary education at night school and through correspondence courses. His goal was a degree from the University of London, England because of the excellent reputation of the geological faculty. Entrance to University of London was attained as an external student and Bill subsequently earned a Bachelor of Science, Master of Science and, after he retired, a PhD Completion of all of these degrees was accomplished while successfully carrying out his management and exploration responsibilities at Imperial Oil

In his early years, Bill worked in South America and subsequently returned home to begin a lifelong career with Imperial Oil. His first assignments provided him with extensive geological field experience in all of the provinces of Eastern Canada.

During 1941 – 1945, he was engaged in administrative work related to the Canal Project and assisted with special executive work in connection with legislation, leasing, tax and other related matters concerning Imperial Oil’s activities in Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.

In 1945, Bill became District Geologist for Eastern Canada and then Manager of the Eastern Division of the Producing Department, in which capacity he was responsible for all exploration and production activities in Eastern Canada.

Later he was made Assistant to the Producing Advisor in the head office in Toronto and subsequently Explorationist.

When the company entered the mineral exploration field in 1966, Bill was appointed Senior Advisor on Minerals, his position until retirement late in 1969. In the course of his career, Bill visited and studied a number of oil and mineral producing areas in the Northwest Territories, Alberta, Ontario, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, California, Venezuela, Great Britain, Germany and the Barbados.

In addition to his work with Imperial Oil, Bill also served at various times, first as Secretary-Treasurer, and then as President of the Geological Association of Canada, as a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists’ Committee on Statistics of Exploratory Drilling, as a member of the Advisory Committee on Mines, Minerals and Metallurgy of the Ontario Research Foundation, as a Director of the Natural Gas and Petroleum Association on Engineering, as General Chairman of the 49th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, as Chairman of the Toronto branch of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, and for a brief period, in 1967, as advisor on oil and gas to the Government of the Barbados.

Despite this strenuous workload, he still had the time and energy to instill in his children and grandchildren, the high standards of ethics and morality that he himself lived by. He was the perfect role model for many.

In 1967, he was awarded the Centennial Medal for his outstanding contribution to the geological profession.

Bill retired in 1969, the same year as he completed his Doctor of Philosophy in Geology from the University of London, England.

He immediately formed a consulting company and was very active in oil exploration in the Middle East. He still remained active, however, in Eastern Canada where his new company was engaged in geological exploration and drilling.

After geology, Bill had two loves. First, he loved watching the old Toronto Maple Leaf Baseball team play (while talking about geology!) and secondly, sportfishing throughout Ontario and Quebec (while talking about geology!).

Bill passed away as peacefully as he had lived and has been sadly missed by his family. He was predeceased by his wife, Margaret, and is survived by his son, William Scott Roliff and his daughter, Barbara Anne Harcourt.

*W. Scott Roliff
Son of William A. Rolliff
Former Director of Education, Dufferin County (Ontario).*

(Author's title given as of the time of writing)