

## In Memoriam: Barry B. Bannatyne

by M.P.B. Nicolas

On January 13, 2021 at the age of 87, Barry Ballenden Bannatyne passed away peacefully. Born and raised in Winnipeg, he grew up in St. James, attending and graduating from St. James Collegiate in 1950. Barry put down roots in Fort Garry with Barbara, his wife of 59 years. They had two daughters, Sandra and Sharon, whom were predeceased by their infant son, Brian. Barry graduated from the University of Manitoba with a B.Sc. (Honours) Geology in 1954, followed by an M.Sc. in 1959.

Barry spent his entire 30-year career with the Manitoba Geological Survey (MGS), although the MGS went by many different names during those years. He was the first Industrial Minerals Geologist for the province, authoring many of the initial industrial mineral inventories and publications. His thorough and detailed publications have stood the test of time and are still relevant and regularly referenced today, including his reports on Manitoba potash, bentonite, dolomite, clays and shales, high-calcium limestone, gypsum and peat.

Barry worked closely with Hugh McCabe, Manitoba's first petroleum geologist and Phanerozoic stratigrapher, to help describe and establish the Manitoba lithostratigraphic framework. They initiated the Manitoba Stratigraphic Drillhole and Industrial Minerals Drilling Program in 1968. Both Barry and Hugh were mentors and coaches for the province's industrial minerals geologists and stratigraphers who followed them until and beyond their joint retirements in 1988. This caring career assistance has been gratefully acknowledged by many of their successors for over 30 years.

After having spent all his summers in the field doing geological mapping, as well as scouting drill hole locations and amassing an impressive number of publications to his name, Barry became the technical editor for all the MGS geological reports towards the end of his career. In his retirement, Barry spent winters in Arizona and summers at his cottage at Albert Beach where he enjoyed spending his time reading and doing jigsaw puzzles.



I first knew Barry from the cottage, having grown up next door to him during the summers over my whole life. During those days, his time at the cottage was shared with times in the field. It wasn't until I started my studies in geology that I learned about Barry's professional side and could put some context to it all. When I started to work for the MGS, my admiration and respect for him grew. I felt honoured to have known him personally—this tall, quiet, intelligent man—who was so important to Manitoba geology, but also feel a sense of awe and inspiration when I open one of his many reports.