



RON CAMPBELL May 24, 1935 – November 17, 2003

Ron Campbell bio info...

Freemasonry as it is practiced in Wisconsin today is in some measure due to Ron's influence. As one of the four originators of what is now known as the Wisconsin Program, he helped spearhead a revolution in how we view and practice our posting examinations, returning our attention to understanding what the degrees actually mean.

In addition to his contribution to the Wisconsin Program posting exams, perhaps his greatest impact was the leadership he provided by communicating with so many Masons the virtues of a method of posting that included the rich history and real meaning of Masonry.

It is one thing to develop an innovative idea, it takes a very special person to mold the vision into reality—this was the kind of man Ron was, and Freemasonry in Wisconsin is far better for his having passed this way.

We will all miss his thundering laugh, his attention to detail, his frank speech, his clear thinking and his true leadership on so many issues. We take comfort that he has heard the welcome words, "Well done good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Brother Ron has finally found his way home.

Brother Ron was initiated an Entered Apprentice on October 19, 1967, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on November 16 and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on December 21 that same year, all in Shawano Lodge.

In Shawano Lodge Ron ascended through the chairs, serving as Master in both 1974 and 1975. He was elected Treasurer in 1993 and held that position until his passing. At the Grand Lodge level he served as an Area Administrator between 1983-1985 as District Counselor in 1986-1987, and as District 4 Lecturer from 1988 until the time of his death.

He became a member of the Order of the Eastern Star in 1969 and served as Worthy Patron in 1971. 1980. 1996-98 and 2001-03.

He became a member of White

Shrine in 1972 and served as Watchman of Shepherd's Fire in 1975-76, 1978, 1981 and 1983.

Although he was no longer active in the York Rite, he joined the Royal Arch Masons in 1970, Knights Templar in 1976, and the Council of Royal and Select Masters in 1983.

He became a member of Scottish Rite in 1974 and served as Thrice Potent Master of the Lodge of Perfection 1987-88, Director of the 6th, 23rd, and Abe Lincoln Degrees; had a class named in his honor, and received the Meritorious Service Award, the prized Red Hat, in 1995.

He became a member of Tripoli Shrine in 1974, was a charter member of the Shawano Shrine Club in 1974 and served as its president in 1978. He served as the Club Circus Chairman from 1980 to the present. He became a charter member of Beja Shrine in 1986, serving on the ritualistic divan from inception to the present. He served as Chief Ambassador of the North Zone 1986-1992, Ambassador General 1992-1997, and a Shrine Ceremonial class was named in his honor in December 1993.

In his service to others, he was a driver for the Shrine to take children down to Chicago for treatment at the Shrine Hospital, and was scheduled to make a trip on Friday, November 19, the day of his funeral.

In the community, he served as the Salvation Army Bell Ringing Chairperson for 20 years to the present. He also served as a food pantry assistant at the Methodist Church and worked tirelessly in many of the council positions of the church and on the building and grounds committee.