



**Assen Petrov KOTZEFF P.Eng,
died on January 15, 2015 in his 99-th year.**

Assen is survived by his four sons and their families - Peter, Alexandre, George and Konstantin, including 14 grand children and 8 great-grand children.

Assen Kotzeff was born in Samokov, Bulgaria, the youngest of 5 children, predeceased by brothers Georgi, Mircho, Konstantin (Kotze) and sister Fonica.

As a young army pilot of the Royal Bulgarian Air Force he defended the national airspace during the enemy raids.

He studied Civil Engineering at the famous Karlovi (Charles) University of Prague and escaped to the west using the withdrawal of the American army after notification on the assassination of his brother

Konstantin by communist death squads. (Konstantin's body has never been recovered and remains hidden in the mountains surrounding Sofia, Bulgaria). As a refugee, Assen accompanied withdrawing American forces to Nurnberg, Germany re-rolling American cigarettes picked from ashtrays to be sold on the black market along with worn American army blankets he had made into winter coats.

There he met and married his wife Elfrieda. Together they decided to escape worn torn Europe and eventually immigrated to Canada by boat in 1950. Working as a dishwasher in Toronto, Assen completed his engineering degree at the University of Toronto and worked for the Department of Transportation and Communications of Ontario until retirement. Assen was involved in the Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church, he was an active member of Holy Trinity Macedono-Bulgarian church in Toronto. He was also Vice President of the Bulgarian Canadian Society.

For many years Assen Kotzeff enjoyed raising cattle on his farm near Penetanguishene, Ontario with his four sons.

The funeral service for Assen Kotzeff was held on Saturday January 24, 2015 at the Holy Trinity Macedono-Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church in presence of his loving family, of many friends and parishioners. Donations were made to the Canadian Institute of the Blind and to his beloved Holy Trinity Macedono-Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church.

Let his soul rest in peace!