

TEMPLIN, Robert John (Bob) [UNTD YORK '43] (1922 - 2009) Age: 87



He died in Austin, Texas, on July 22, 2009 at the age of 87.

Robert J. Templin Mr. Robert J. Templin passed away July 22, 2009, in Austin, Texas. Mr. Templin was born in Toronto, Canada, and was a resident of the Detroit area for 50 years. He held several positions at General Motors and in the Cadillac Motor Car Division, retiring in 1987 after 42 years. He led the team which successfully launched the Cadillac Seville in 1975, and was also instrumental in developing important emission control technologies. He was an avid amateur radio enthusiast, earning his first license in 1942, and an accomplished photographer. He served on the Science Advisory Council of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and was an active alumnus. He was preceded in death by his parents, Albert and Elizabeth, and recently by his brother, Jack. He is survived by his wife, Peggy of Austin, Tex.; daughters, Patricia Mitchell (Michael) of Portland, OR, and Lucie Ramos of Sunnyvale, CA; and son, Jim (Lisa), and granddaughter Ella. A memorial service will be held Saturday, August 29, 2009, at the Lakeway Activity Center, Austin, TX, (512-261-1010). In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be sent to the charity of your choice. Published in Austin American-Statesman on Aug. 16, 2009
UNTD and the Cadillac Seville ...

Bob Templin became the Chief Engineer of the Cadillac Division of GM in January, 1973. One of his first projects was to come up with a "smaller" model, in response to the Arab Oil Embargo amongst other things. That resulted in the Cadillac Seville making its first appearance in the 1975/76 year. It lasted through to 2004. It turns out that Bob Templin was a UNTD. He has written much, and others have written much, about his time at GM and his subsequent consulting career.

He was from Fergus, Ontario and in the Fall of 1943 was in his final year of Engineering and Physics at U of T when attested into the UNTD. As was required of Graduates, he had to attend a Naval Selection Board in late February 1944 to determine, what if anything the Navy were going to do with him and whether his plans might exempt him from further service. He does not appear to have gone into the wartime Navy, by choice or otherwise, but did attend Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY, graduating there in 1947. He maintained a strong connection to that school, well into his Detroit days.

Bill C