

Remembering Rich Morris

A year has passed and the memories of Rich live on.

His dedication and commitment to the industry will always be a legacy. His goal was to bring knowledge , education and betterment to our industry.

I can not believe a year has passed. I will think of him at the Alberta AGM this year.

It was a privilege to know him over the many years of my involvement in the industry.

The CFAA is a better Chapter due to him

Steve Maudsley, Chubb Edwards

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I was deeply saddened to learn of Rich's death and I would like to express my sincere sadness and sympathies to family and friends at this difficult time. Rich was a highly valuable and respected member of C.F.A.A.

During his many years, his dedication and selfless nature was always something that many others could only hope to attain and all who knew him regarded him with great respect and admiration. During his time he helped the C.F.A.A move forward in great strides and his efforts and contributions will never be forgotten.

Please accept my sincere and heartfelt condolences at this most difficult of times. He will be greatly missed.

With Sincere Sympathy, Devinder S. Anand ULC work group member S-536

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When I learned of Rich's passing, I started to reflect on my memories of him. I worked for Rich at Pyrotronics Canada. What stands out in my mind most is that he introduced myself and others to "The Pyroman". In time, I came to realize Rich was introducing us to himself: A knowledgeable man with integrity and vision. Rich Morris truly was and is "The Pyroman". The way he lived is the legacy he left. Job well done, Rich...rest in peace. Rob Allsopp

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I was away last week when I got the news. I was truly saddened. The industry has lost a true pioneer and we all lost a friend. His mark on the fire alarm industry and specifically CFAA is historical and far reaching. Gord Morrison

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I remember the Richard Morris: who worked tirelessly in the 1960s to introduce smoke detection, believing that many, many lives would be saved from fire with the proper use of smoke detectors and smoke alarms. How right he was! I remember the Richard Morris who was

one of the founding voices leading to the establishment of the Canadian Fire Alarm Association (CFAA) in 1973, who became the first non-American Chair of the US-based National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), who served for many years as Chair of the main S500 Committee at Underwriters Laboratories of Canada (ULC) in the very important role of overall standards co-ordination and development, and who was the consummate voice of fire-safety in Canada for many, many years:

Even more importantly, however, I remember the Richard Morris who was kind, considerate, loyal and supportive. As passionate as he was about his profession, he was even more passionate about his family, his friends and his work-mates. Simply put, and above all of his other attributes, Richard Morris was a people-person. For his bereaved family, for his many, many friends – that will be his most-lasting legacy. May God bless you, Richard. Allen Hodgson
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I have known Rich for nearly 30 years. When I first left school I worked for a Pyrotronics distributor. This is where I first met this very inspiring man. He was charismatic, passionate, motivating and a true leader.

I remember I was very excited when I first joined Cerberus Pyrotronics as a sales representative in the early 90's. Rich was our President and the man who hired me. A day did not go by where he did not remind us that we were blessed to make our living saving lives. Others would have seen our jobs as selling or fixing fire alarm systems. We did not have a job, we had a duty. Rich truly believed we were making a difference. It seemed Rich saw business as a friendly game. The competition was not the enemy but rather an opponent with the same goals. As in sports it was not about winning or losing but how you played the game.

Over the span of my career, he became my mentor and my friend but always he remained that inspiration. Long after many of his colleagues had retired, and long after everyone would agree that he had contributed more than his share, Rich continued to get up in the morning and head to the office to his job of saving lives.

Recently I asked Rich to organize a meeting for me. After he had been admitted to hospital and just days before his passing, he made a point of having his son call me with regrets that he would not be able to make that meeting. This is the way I will remember Rich; always thinking of others and his sense of duty.

I will miss my friend. So long until our next meeting. Allen Hess

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Rich Morris was instrumental in raising the importance and awareness of the proper use of fire alarm systems throughout Canada over the course of his 40 plus years in the industry. His ability to connect with people at all levels in the industry was unsurpassed. He was a role model and mentor for many, including myself. He will be sadly missed but never forgotten. Stephen Ames
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I have just received news regarding Rich. I am so sorry to hear. A real shock. We've lost a great man, who will be sadly missed. Brad Pope

I'm sorry to hear of the passing of Rich. He was a great man and although I have only had the privilege of knowing him for the last few years, I am blessed to have had the opportunity. He had my greatest respect and he was instrumental in starting the CFAA Alberta Chapter a few years ago. Rich was always very supportive and encouraging to me and someone to aspire to be like. He was taken from us too soon. I will always remember his enthusiasm and passion for wanting to help others. With deepest regret. God bless. Kirk Thordobson

Rich is a respected icon in his chosen career path in the fire alarm and life safety field. For many years, he was the professional and common-sense spokes-person for our industry. Rich saw only the positive side, in issues and in people

Rich was my mentor during our long and close business association. On a personal level, Rich was always reachable, always ready to help in any manner possible. He was a supporter and a close friend, There will be no replacement for Rich. He was one-of-a-kind; He will be missed by all that were fortunate enough to have known him. Gerry Landmesser

It is absolutely devastating. Rich was a great person, fun guy and a consummate professional – passionate, dedicated and doing his work with amazing integrity. He'll be missed, Please relay my profound sympathy to his family. Ark Tsisserev

I last saw/spoke and sat together with Rich at the CFSA Annual Seminar (April 4). As Ark points out it is devastating and within a month he's no longer with us. Rich was very instrumental in getting me involved with CFSA & CFAA. We'll miss him but never forgotten. Ciao Rich!! Rick Florio

I first met Rich in the late 60's while I was with Unelco. When I eventually started Stanex, I call Rich to advise him of my change. He wished me luck & offered his help. Within 2 years , he offered me the Pyrotronics line & the rest is history. Rich was passionate & a leader in our industry. He was always available. When we decided to host our first C.F.A.A conference in Montreal, Rick came & advised us exactly how to proceed. The entire industry owes a debt to Rich Morris. I Personally lost a good friend Lou Pedicelli

A great man has been taken from us.....a man of vision, a man of passion, and a selfless servant of mankind. Few ever do what Rich has done in terms of saving lives, helping others, mentoring his flock, and showing us all what real "leadership" is. I am sure we will all miss him very much.....we must do something very significant to remind the world of what he did, and to

celebrate his life..... But for now I feel a little empty..... Enjoy a peaceful rest, friend. Andy Hewitson

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I am deeply saddened to pass on word that Rich Morris passed away recently, with his family by his side. Rich was a leading fire safety figure in Canada and one of the initial champions for smoke alarms in homes. Recently he was involved with the Fire Marshals Public Fire Safety Council, and Canadian Fire Alarm Association. He was a mentor for many fire safety professionals and a true prince of a gentleman. We have truly lost a great man. Sean Sean A. Tracey Canadian Regional Director, NFPA

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Truly very sad news about Rich. He was Canada's ambassador for fire alarms and fire safety. A great friend. He will be missed. Dave Goodyear