

# Paul O'Regan

1944-2012



Paul O'Regan was highly respected in the automotive industry and in the community. As a teacher, entrepreneur, volunteer and family-man, he truly embodied what it meant to be a leader.

Born and raised in Parrsboro, Nova Scotia, Paul worked at the family's car business in his early years, but chose the teaching profession on completion of his studies at Saint Francis Xavier and Dalhousie University. In 1973, he left an eight-year teaching career and founded O'Regan Motors Limited in Dartmouth. With his brother, Stephen O'Regan, Paul built O'Regan's Automotive Group into one of the largest automotive organizations in Canada. Under Paul's

leadership, O'Regan's Automotive Group won many distinguished awards including: Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies (now Platinum Status), Best Companies to Work For in Atlantic Canada, Better Business Bureau's Ethics Award and Corporate Philanthropist of the Year (Atlantic). In May 2012, Paul received an honorary Doctor of Laws from St. Francis Xavier University, posthumously.

Paul's community involvement has been extensive and included board and committee services for the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Public Affairs, Alderney Landing Cultural Community Centre, Junior Achievement, Heart & Stroke Foundation of Nova Scotia and Saint Francis Xavier University. As a founding director of Phoenix House, he was instrumental in establishing their first youth facility in Halifax. Paul and his wife Mary served as Honorary Chairs of Margaret House and Feed Others of Dartmouth. He also supported The Arthritis Society, Coady International, Eastern Front Theatre, The Mental Health Foundation, Ship's Company Theatre in Parrsboro, The United Way, and many other organizations.

In addition to committee and board service, Paul was dedicated to quietly helping others with sound advice, financial assistance and the benefit of his keen business acumen and experience. His greatest joy, apart from his family, was mentoring others and helping them find confidence in their own individual gifts.

