

## **Barry Conquest Rugg – School 1948**

### ***Honorary Life Member 2011***

Barry Conquest Rugg was born December 24, 1923 to James and Margaret Rugg of Elstow, Saskatchewan. James Rugg had homesteaded there in 1904. Barry had 2 brothers, Alan ('37S, '42C) and Bill, and one sister, Dorothy. In 1942 Barry joined the RCAF and served as an airframe mechanic in Canada and England. Upon his return he attended the School of Agriculture and graduated in 1948. In the fall of 1945 he met student teacher Betty Hayes from Wynyard at one of the many dances held at Elstow in those days. They were married in July 1948 and have celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary. Barry farmed with his father and his brother, Bill, and then his nephew Bill. He is still active on the farm with his son, Bob ('71C) and grandsons, Brian ('97C) and Barry ('03C).

The Rugg family has grown pedigree seed since about 1916 and Barry has been a member of the Seed Growers for 60 years. He has faithfully attended the Sask Seed Grower's annual meeting and many Canadian Seed Grower conventions over all of these years and was awarded an outstanding service award from the Canadian Seed Growers Association in 1971.

Community service has always been an important aspect of Barry's life. In 1955-56 he was very involved in canvassing his local area to get farmers to sign up for electricity, which he describes as "the greatest advancement made to farming since the introduction of the tractor". With the help of Ag. Rep. Frank Payne he reorganized the Elstow Junior 4-H Grain Club and was a leader for 22 years. He sat on the District #22 4-H Council and the Provincial 4-H Council. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Elstow Coop and Colonsay Coop as well as other boards and councils. He belonged to the local Wheat Pool Committee in Elstow and Colonsay and was a Saskatchewan Wheat Pool delegate for 8 1/2 years.

Barry was an Honorary Citizen of Saskatchewan for the year 1971 and in 1986 he received a Distinguished Graduate in Agriculture Award from the University of Saskatchewan. His involvement in the Elstow Agricultural Society led to a life membership in the Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions (SAASE) in 1995.

Barry and Betty have five children; Bob, Jim, Laureen, Carol and Lois, 8 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. He is a life member of the Royal Canadian Legion and he and Betty are faithful members of St. Matthias Anglican Church in Colonsay. Barry spends countless hours creating intricate crafts in his wood working shop. Barry has attended SAGA functions and meetings over the years and still stays in contact with many of his classmates.