**Bob Beattie**

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| Bob was born in Bright, Ontario on October 18, 1936. While living on Dundas St. east in Woodstock, he remembers when the Army had their gas pumps at the corner of Dundas and Huron streets. His father was an attendant at the Ontario Hospital, had a heart attack at work and died in the arms of a fellow Probus member, Ken Rutherford. Shortly after, they moved in with his grandparents in Bright, where his grandfather was a veterinarian. When he passed away, he moved back to  |  |

Woodstock, where he attended central school and W.C.I.

His first job was with Perry Radio where his first assignment was to install a 90 foot antenna. This career ended at the 30 foot mark. He then worked for York Knitting Mills and Paquette Hosiery.

Bob joined the Navy in January, 1955 and went to Cornwallis for his basic training. He went in at 230 lbs. and finished his 19 weeks training at 185 lbs. An aptitude test indicated he would be suited for Communications, so he was sent to HMCS Gloucester near Ottawa to learn morse code and typing. After 10 months training he was sent to Aklivic, NWT, arriving on June 6th. Around 10 pm it was still light so he asked when it would get dark. The answer was mid-October. He spent 2 years there, then back to Ottawa for a radio warfare course. Next stop was the HMCS St. Croix in Halifax, with trips to Bermuda, the Azores, and England.

In 1959, when the Queen was coming to Canada to open the seaway, she came on the St. Croix. In preparation, the crew had to remove the heavy ammo, and one of the men dropped a 90 lb. unit which struck Bob on the head, which led to a 10 month stay in hospital in Halifax with extensive therapy. This injury led to 4 brain operations, one lasting 18 hours. After leaving the service, he worked for 35 years at the Ontario Hospital.

Bob is married to Doreen, and they have 2 children and 4 grandchildren. In closing, he read a thought-provoking poem "Are you indispensable? “