

Grand First Principal

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for Manitoba Canada

1995 - 1996



April 1995



April 2014

Most Excellent Companion

JAMES J. BARRATT

Most Excellent Companion James J. Barratt was born in Edinburgh, Scotland on November 18th, 1934. In April 1967 he moved to Winnipeg working for Federal Pioneer Electric, with whom he remained until 1993. He is currently employed with Dominion Tanners as head of Human Resources.

Jim married Nona Soules in November 1972 moving into their present home in 1975. Although they have no children of their own, dogs play a big part in their lives as do three super teenagers across the street whom they fondly refer to as their "rent-a-kids".

In October 1960, Jim was initiated into Roman Eagle # 160 Masonic Lodge in Edinburgh, Scotland.

In 1972 he affiliated with Starbuck Lodge #160, becoming Master in 1980. Jim served as District Deputy Grand Master in 1982. He has been a member of the Board of General Purposes of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba for nearly twelve years with the last three as Chairman of the Masonic Enhancement Committee. James received his 55 year bar from the Grand Lodge of Manitoba.

He joined Red River Valley Chapter #21 in 1983 and served as Excellent "Z" in 1986 and 1991. He was elected to the Grand Executive Committee for the Grand Chapter in 1988 and, has served on the Laws and Jurisprudence Committee, installed as Grand Superintendent in 1992 and then installed as Grand First Principal in 1995. . James re received the Ephraim Kirby award at the 2014 convocation by M Ex Comp John Parsons the Deputy High Priest Grand Chapter International, I was the first Companion to receive this award in Manitoba. James served as Grand Scribe Ezra for a 10 year period. James installed the superintendents at Grand chapter convocation for many years.

Jim is a member and past President of Order of High Priesthood, Cryptic Rite and the Red Cross of Constantine.

He has selected as his theme for the upcoming year, "BRIDGE THE GAP" between the Craft Lodge and the Royal Arch Masons.

He has dedicated his year as Grand First Principal to the late Brother Norman Hind who encouraged him back into Masonry after his arrival in Canada.