



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Memorial Tribute to

PROFESSOR S.M. (MIKE) UZUMERI

**Professor Emeritus, Department of Civil Engineering
University of Toronto**

February 28, 2017

Be it resolved that the Council of the Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering record with deep regret the death on January 19, 2017 of Professor S.M. Uzumeri.

Professor Uzumeri passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on January 19, 2017, at the age of 86. He is survived by his wife Jean, children Vakur and Leyla, and grandchildren David and Emre.

Professor Uzumeri graduated from the University of Toronto with a B.A.Sc. in Civil Engineering in 1956 and completed an M.A.Sc. in 1958. He joined the Department as Lecturer the same year and became an Assistant Professor in 1962. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1968 and to Professor in 1974. He was Assistant Chair of the Civil Engineering Department from 1968-1971 and Chair from 1984-1989. Professor Uzumeri retired from the University of Toronto in 1993. Following this, he was a faculty member at the Middle Eastern Technical University until 2005.

In his 35 years at the University of Toronto, Professor Uzumeri made many contributions as a distinguished professor, administrator and mentor. He was on the University Wide Committee involved in drafting the new University of Toronto Act implemented in 1971. He served as President of the University of Toronto Faculty Association from 1972 to 1973 and President of the Association of Engineering Professors from 1975 to 1978. Professor Uzumeri was a member of Governing Council from 1981 to 1989, serving on several committees of Governing Council and finally serving as Chair of the Academic Board of the University of Toronto from 1988 to 1989.

With an absolute conviction that engineers have the ability to make the world a better place, Professor Uzumeri played a significant role in deepening the understanding of reinforced concrete behaviour. He was among the founding members of the Canadian Association for Earthquake Engineering and made significant contributions to earthquake engineering research and building code development, serving on several national and international technical committees dealing with building codes and seismic design. In 2002, he was recognized by the American Concrete Institute with a special Symposium named after him. He was a fellow of the American Concrete Institute and the Canadian Society of Civil Engineering.

As Civil Engineering Department Chair, Professor Uzumeri championed the modernization of the Department by introducing computerization to its administration along with the associated staff training, made academic teaching allocations transparent and introduced the concept of funding levels for the Department's graduate students. He encouraged and supported many students and young faculty members over the years. He was also instrumental in setting up a scholarship, which bore the name of his graduating year, the Class of 5T6 scholarship, awarded annually to an outstanding second year civil engineering student.

Professor Uzumeri was deeply proud of the University of Toronto and he was the embodiment of its 'Blue and White' spirit. Professor Uzumeri was truly a great citizen of the University of Toronto.

Be it further resolved that this tribute to Emeritus Professor Uzumeri be inscribed in the minutes of this Council meeting and that copies be sent to his family as an expression of the respect and gratitude of the members of this Council.

*Prepared with reference to contributions by Professors M.P. Collins,
Bryan Karney, Eric Miller, Shamim Sheikh and Frank Vecchio*