



LIFESAVING SOCIETY

The Lifeguarding Experts

Canadian Examples of Heroism

THE MOUNTBATTEN MEDAL

The Mountbatten Medal was instituted in 1951 by the Royal Life Saving Society Commonwealth and named after the Society's then Grand President, The Earl Mountbatten of Burma. The Mountbatten Medal is given annually for the most gallant rescue or rescue attempt undertaken throughout the Commonwealth by the holder of a Royal Life Saving Society Award.

**KENNETH DAVID HOWLETT
of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
1963**

Kenneth Howlett, a United Church Student Minister, was driving in a car with friends near the North Saskatchewan River in Edmonton on the afternoon of December 4, 1963, when he noticed three boys apparently in trouble on the ice near the river bank.

One boy, aged three, was in the water but clinging to the edge of the ice, and was pulled out by one of Kenneth's companions. Another boy, a brother aged four, was face downwards in the water and drifting down the river. Kenneth immediately stripped off most of his clothing and entered the water with a makeshift lifeline of shirts, belts, etc. When this proved too short, he let go and swam to the boy. After towing the boy back, using a cross chest carry, Kenneth applied the Direct (Expired Air) method of artificial respiration while holding onto the edge of the ice and before being assisted with the boy from the water.

The temperature of the water was approximately 33 degrees Fahrenheit, and the air temperature was -38 degrees. Kenneth's immediate action in entering the water without thought of his own safety, and the application of artificial respiration at the first possible moment undoubtedly saved the life of the four year old boy. Kenneth Howlett is a holder of the Bronze Medallion and Senior Artificial Respiration certificate.

"Whomsoever you see in distress, recognize in him a fellow man." Lifesaving Society Motto