

## OSCAR P. STONE (1913-2007)

MARLBORO, VT -- Oscar P. Stone, 93, of Marlboro died Monday morning, July 2, 2007, at Brattleboro Memorial Hospital. Mr. Stone was born on Sept. 12, 1913; in Englewood, N.J. Mr. Stone lived his life in accordance with his beliefs and was a member of the Bahai faith.

All who practice tree care, not only in the northeastern US, but everywhere will miss Oscar. In a long and colorful career, Oscar truly saw arboriculture grow up and develop - due in no small part to his efforts. Oscar was a man who was kind, gentle, wise, knowledgeable and filled with a deep passion - for trees, for people and for the proper care of trees by people truly committed to their craft and to the future of their profession.

He worked his entire life and dedicated his work to being an arborist. He planted many of the trees on the Brattleboro Common. He was a long-time and essential member of the Connecticut Tree Protective Association, a member of the International Society of Arboriculture, and a member of C.U.R.E. of Brattleboro.

In Connecticut, which has had an arborist licensing law since 1919, the better part of at least two generations of arborists can thank Oscar for helping them earn their license. Always generous with his insights as well as his support, Oscar taught a class that many of us took, that was essential to helping us achieve this professional milestone.

Oscar's support, though, went well beyond helping people pass a test. A regular attendee of Association meetings, Oscar could be counted on to offer his advice and share his insights - all the while remaining a fierce protector of the professionalism and responsibilities that underlie tree care in all forms. As a teacher, Oscar could be counted on to deliver the lesson, often in the form of a story, always right on target, always with a point. In turn, the passion and respect for trees and for tree care he instilled in others will remain for a long time to come, along with the sense of gratitude for what we learned from Oscar.

As generous and tireless Oscar was with respect to arboriculture, he was equally generous and devoted with regards to his faith, his community and his fellow human beings. A member of the Bahai community, Oscar was staunch in expressing his belief in right and wrong, in the basic goodness of people and in the beneficence of the Creator

Throughout his lifetime he received many awards for his accomplishments, including lifetime membership in CTPA and going to Washington, D.C., in 2004 to be honored as the "Oldest Worker in Vermont." In 1988 Oscar was awarded the ISA Award of Merit, the highest award that the ISA has.

In his long career, Oscar witnessed much. Indeed, he was a part of one of the early commercial airplane charters in his home state of New Jersey, and, as a young man, was working on Wall Street at the time of the Crash of 1929. He witnessed the growth of arboriculture into a well-respected profession and saw the spread of the profession into many of its productive forms. Designated as a "Legend of Arboriculture" in the 1999 ISA video, Oscar shares many of his stories in that film. Indeed, he has left us many stories and many treasures to share, and he will be missed greatly.

Mr. Stone is survived by a son, Stephen Stone, an arborist, of New Haven, CT; three daughters; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Funeral services for Mr. Stone were held on July 3rd in Brattleboro, burial followed at the Meetinghouse Hill Cemetery in Brattleboro.

For those who wish, memorial contributions in Mr. Stone's memory may be made to the Oscar P. Stone Research Trust Fund, c/o CTPA, P.O. Box 356, Northford, CT 06472.



**Oscar P. Stone (R)**  
& Bruce Pauley (L)  
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[www.ctpa.org/opsfund.htm](http://www.ctpa.org/opsfund.htm)