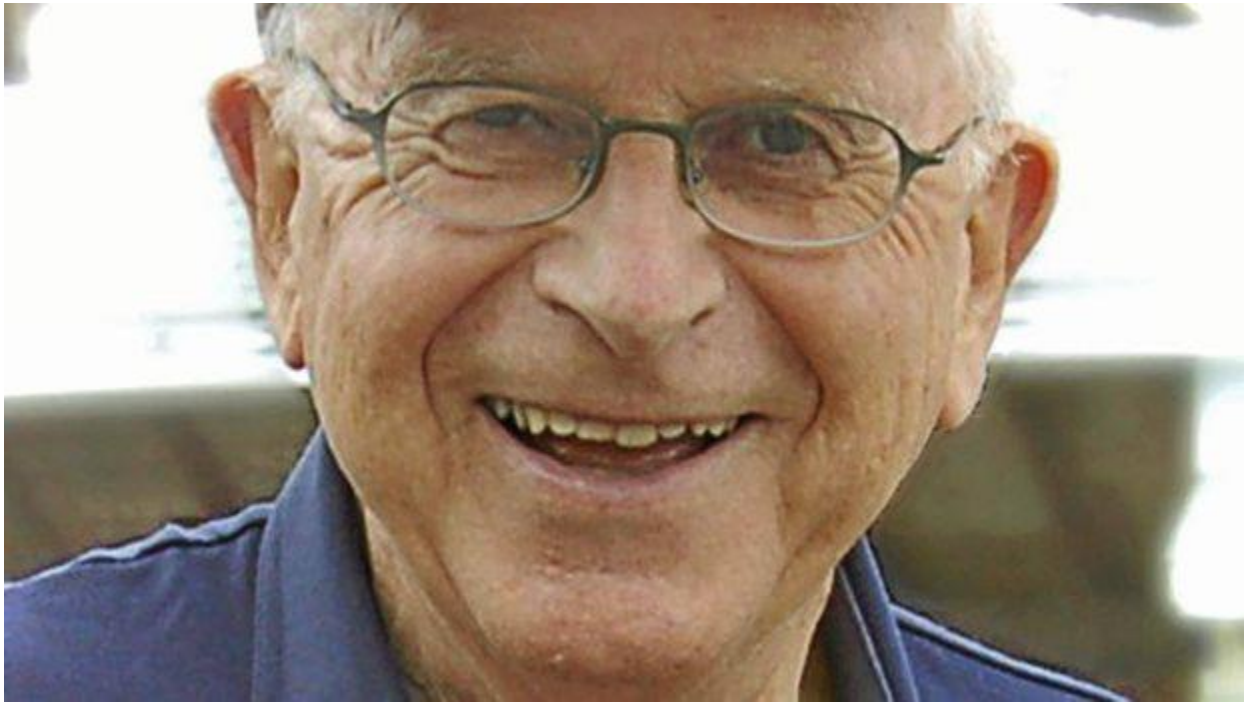


## **D. Andrew Eisenhower**



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***Family man, engineer, entrepreneur, community leader, good man. Born May 20, 1923, in Lunenburg, N.S. Died Oct. 28 in Lunenburg of head injuries from a fall on a curling rink, aged 87.***

Shortly after midnight on Nov. 1, 2001, Andrew Eisenhower's telephone rang. The voice on the phone said, "Andrew, the church is burning. And it's bad."

Andrew was the kind of man you called first when you needed advice on a business problem, when you needed help with a community project, when your church was on fire.

The church was St. John's Anglican in Lunenburg, N.S., dating from 1753 and a National Historic Site. That phone call set off a five-year reconstruction effort, co-chaired by Andrew, that involved raising \$6-million and directing a team of hundreds of volunteers and skilled craftspeople who restored the church to its former glory.

Andrew's entrepreneurial drive and social responsibility came from many influences, but none more so than a deep sense of loss and struggle. His father, Martin, died when Andrew was just 6. His oldest brother, Alfred, died a few years later at 18 after falling on ice while walking to school. His mother, May, provided for Andrew and his other brother through many challenging times. Andrew wanted to be an engineer like his dad and spent his life trying to walk in the footsteps of a father he knew mainly through the stories of others.

Trained in engineering at the Technical University of Nova Scotia, Andrew had a long and varied career. After working in London, Ont., he returned to Nova Scotia and in 1947 co-founded Atlantic Bridge Company, now ABCO Group. He pioneered dozens of business ventures including shipbuilding, construction, metal manufacturing, fibreglass manufacturing, engine distribution and repair, and offshore oil servicing and supply. Many of these ventures were successful. Some less so. But as Andrew once told a graduating class of engineers, "Good judgment comes from experience. The best experience comes from bad judgment."

Inducted into the Nova Scotia Business Hall of Fame and the recipient of honorary doctorates from both the Atlantic School of Theology and Dalhousie University, Andrew always felt his greatest accomplishment was his family of five children - Gretchen, Jim, Susan, Janet and Tom - and 15 grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Along with his wife of 62 years, Josephine, they were his greatest pride, comfort and joy.

The congregation at Andrew's memorial service filled the now-restored church of St. John's as well as the nearby Presbyterian Church. There were many tributes paid to him, but the greatest was simply to be called a "good man" - about the highest praise one can receive in a small community like Lunenburg.

Source: Globe and Mail <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/facts-and-arguments/d-andrew-eisenhauer/article568124/>