



With overwhelming sadness we learned of the death of Peel Regional Advanced Care Paramedic Martin Wood yesterday. This news came as a shock, and a surprise to all of those who knew him as a paramedic and as a friend.

Martin has been a Paramedic serving the residents of Peel Region for many decades, and in this role he has touched the lives of countless patients, paramedics, and other allied agency staff. He was the "Gentleman Paramedic", the ideal that we all strived towards as we began our careers as Paramedics. He was kind, knowledgeable, capable, approachable, and above all he was compassionate. This compassion was extended to all he met, including his patients, their families, his partners and colleagues.

Throughout his career Martin wore many hats. He began as a Primary Care Paramedic, and achieved his Advanced Care Paramedic qualification in 1998. Martin was a much-respected preceptor, mentor, and role model. He was well known as a paramedic who would answer any question asked of him. Those who worked with him out of Tedlo station, where he spent the majority of his lengthy career, will recall his quick wit and dry sense of humour. Martin was one of Peel Regional Paramedic Services first Tactical Paramedics, where he was instrumental in shaping the program through the start up years.

During this sad time our thoughts are with Martin's family, his friends, and his colleagues. Please keep Martin's family in your thoughts as we mourn him, and respect their wishes regarding privacy and confidentiality as they grieve his passing.

Many of us counted Martin as a friend as well as a colleague. His death will affect us all differently and some may need assistance or support. If you or someone you know experiences symptoms or distress, please don't hesitate to speak with a professional at the EFAP Service or obtain a referral to a healthcare professional. Your wellness matters to those we care for each and every day.

The Peel Paramedic Association will be working with our Peel Paramedic Benevolent Society, our OPSEU union executive and the Peel Paramedic Service to offer any support we can.

In Peel Region you can also access the crisis intervention numbers listed below:

Spectra Helpline (crisis intervention/suicide prevention): 905-459-7777

Peel Mobile Crisis Support Team: 905-459-7777