Alexander Vorres

Humble, responsible and gentle, Alec was a many-sided personality with many interests and high ideals. An excellent sportsman (tennis, skiing, sailing, hunting, rugby), he was seriously preoccupied with painting, literature and poetry. One of the first foreign students to arrive at Queen's after World War II, he proved an excellent scholar as well, winning the prestigious Governor General's scholarship for a two-year period of studies at Oxford. He was, in fact, hired by the Aluminum Company of Canada before even finishing his final exams in 1951. He also served as editor of Queen's Alumni Yearbook Tricolor '51, the year he graduated (see yearbook pages below). It is very rare in the history of Queen's that a science student had time to act as editor of the Yearbook.
The 1951 graduation photo of Alec (above) was taken by well-known Kingston photographer Wallace Berry. The story of the photo is quite fascinating and revealing. As Alec was walking in Kingston, he stopped to look at the new cameras and photographic equipment featured at Berry's shop window. Alec was exceptionally handsome, but highly modest and shy by nature. As he walked away, the shop's door flung open and the photographer asked him to enter the shop for a moment to have his photo portrait taken, which of course he offered Alec for free. They became good friends and Wallace admitted that Alec's photo in the window attracted more than 600 persons who ordered their personal photos taken that year!

Alec's untimely tragic death from a rifle accident at the age of 28 caused deep sorrow amongst his many friends on both sides of the Atlantic, besides the heartbreak in his family.