

Fred D'Ortone Celebrates 40 Years of Service with Yerkes Associates



Please congratulate Fred D'Ortone on his 40th anniversary of service at Yerkes Associates, Inc. this April 26, 2016.

Fred is a Graduate of Springfield HS, where he also went to VoTech School studying Culinary Arts.

Thereafter, Fred worked for one week at Yerkes, however a large job did not pan out, so Fred went to the Providence Ale House, Secane, Pa. at the age of 18.

After (3) months, Fred then came to Yerkes, despite having an offer to work for a gourmet chef in an up-scale Philadelphia restaurant.

At the age of 19, on April 26, 1976, Fred began his career at Yerkes Associates under the tutelage of his Dad, Roland D'Ortone, Yerkes Chief Surveyor.

Roland completed a (44) year career with Yerkes starting around 1956. Considering the start of Roland, there has been a D'Ortone at Yerkes for 60 years.

"Dad" and "Son" worked together on occasion while Dad tutored, maybe even lectured his son on his rides home from work. In part, thanks to Dad, Fred became a Party Chief, in less than two years.

Father and Son basically surveyed the entire Chesterbrook tract over the course of (15) years.

"Fred has always been the one to take the new innovative instruments (Calculators with memory cards, EDM'S, Data Collectors and Robotic Total Stations, and figure out how to make Yerkes more productive," notes Survey Manager Mike Barbieri.

"Not to mention a friendly demeanor with clients, Fred would work any overtime necessary to meet client needs. Inclement weather never stopped Fred from meeting a client's deadline so long as he could see the terrain", says Barbieri.

Always willing to learn, Fred attended the Delaware County Community College, Drafting Class (1978), and Drexel University taking a Survey Review Course (1985)

For more than three years (2011-14), he traveled with a Survey Crew to the Marcellus Shale region where GPS and total station equipment were used to survey both public and private boundaries, along with farmland and natural gas utility pads.

Today, Mr. D'Ortone is responsible for conducting property surveys, topographic surveys, boundary surveys, certified ALTA surveys and construction layout for sanitary, storm sewer, roads and column steel.

"I have worked with Fred for decades at the Bryn Mawr and Rosemont offices", says Bill Wermuth, Vice President of Yerkes. "Fred always got the job done and never let anyone down. There were many days where Fred's Survey Crew would face adverse conditions, none of which ever got in Fred's way. He never gave excuses because he always produced results. Looking back, it was an honor to work with him".

When pressed for a comment about his 40 year accomplishment, Fred humbly responds: "I am appreciative that Yerkes has provided both me and my Dad the opportunity to showcase both our talents and to provide for our families. Fred, Yerkes is just as appreciative, and very thankful for your service.

CONGRATULATIONS!