

For three quarters of a century Gerald Brooks has been proud Mason

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By Jeremy Ashley

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Gerald Brooks is celebrating two milestones this month.

On Dec. 3, the Hastings Manor resident celebrated his 100th birthday.

Wednesday night at the Masonic Lodge, Brooks was joined by a number of lodge members to officially mark his 75th anniversary as a member of the Masons.

"It's been a long time," he chuckled. "Things have changed quite a bit."

Brooks, a long-time farmer, joined the Ameliasburgh chapter of

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**— 75-YEAR MASON
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the Masonic Lodge shortly after his 25 birthday in 1928.

In 1949, Brooks, who at the time

was 46, moved with his family to a farm just north of Stirling. He joined and has since remained a member of the Stirling lodge.

Brooks, who has two children, eight grand-children and 21 great grandchildren, said he thoroughly "enjoyed being a member of the club... it's a good organization."

Wednesday, Brooks was treated to dinner at the Belleville lodge, where he was joined by fellow Masons from across Hastings and Prince Edward counties.

"This is a special time for me," he said. "I have a lot of friends from this organization and we've helped a lot of people... for that I'm very proud."

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