

A - Friend
Family (07-01) (P)

To the Editor
The Cobourg Daily Star ;

It is unfortunate in this day and age that highlights and important aspects of some good people, who have lived an active and useful life, go unrecorded when they pass on. Mr. Frederick Friend, who died in Timmins on December 24th last and interred in the Cobourg Union Cemetery, was a resident of Cobourg for a number of years before moving to Kemptville. During his sojourn here, he was employed by the Sentinel-Star. He was an active member of the former Congregational Church, and sang in the church choir. He had an outgoing disposition, well liked by all, and lived up to his surname.

Douglas Herbert Walden, DDS.(1906-1982) who died in the Port Hope Hospital on December 11th, was a Cobourg boy. The John Walden family lived on the Factory Hill in the west end of Cobourg. That part of the town was a unique residential section, with open spaces, open fields, and a collection of families with kindred interests. It was a healthy environment.

Douglas was only a few months my senior. At an early age we became playmates and buddies. With few neighbourhood restrictions we lived a boy's life to the full. At seven years of age, Douglas and I were self-appointed inspectors on the C.P.R construction then in progress(1913) in our neighbourhood. We saw to it that the railway bridges were properly built, made sure the heavy timber trestle would carry the work trains, and the clay embankment properly placed. These structures still stand !

In winter, many an impromptu hockey match was played on local ponds and patches of ice. Summer attracted us to the lake for swimming. We roamed the woods to the west of the town at will. We played baseball in nearby fields. During our 'teens, we spent much time at the lake at the

end of Burnham Street. Here we erected our diving towers out in the lake, built and played with our home-made, flat-bottomed boats and established our headquarters in a dug-out on the lake bank and called it "The Better 'Ole ". We enjoyed a healthy, outdoor life, making our own fun as we went along.

Douglas was athletic inclined and in his later 'teens played baseball for the Cobourg team, and hockey with the Cobourg Junior O.H.A. At school, he was a good student, above average, and advanced through Cobourg Collegiate, then on to the University of Toronto for a course in dentistry. On graduation he practised dentistry in Port Hope, married, and lived out the remainder of his life there. As a lad, he was cheerful, had a sense of humour, was a good companion, and gave good leadership to the younger lads of the neighbourhood. The notice of his passing brings back many fond memories of boyhood.

Percy L. Climo

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Colborne, Ontario,
December 31, 1982.

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