

Feb 16/05

Charles 'Charlie' Churchill loved cars and harness racing horses

by JOHN BARKER
The Independent



Charles "Charlie" Churchill

Charlie Churchill, 76, who died last Thursday at his Thornlea Road home in Colborne, ran several different businesses in Colborne and Brighton but he always managed to gravitate to something to do with cars and working with his son, Charles Jr.

Mr. Churchill was born in Middle River, N.S. on Cape Breton Island, near Baddeck and the Bras d'Or Lakes. Mr. Churchill moved to Ontario as a young man to join the military and undergo basic training at Camp Borden, now CFB Borden, southwest of Barrie, his daughter Sharon, 53, recalled in an interview Monday. Sharon, while born in Toronto, along with her brother, Charles, now lives in Baddeck, with her husband, Jim Morrow, who is the editor and general manager of *The Victoria Standard*, a community newspaper on the island.

He is also survived by his daughter-in-law, Elaine, Charles Jr.'s wife, his brother Lloyd and sister Ellen, and three grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Not long after his arrival in Ontario he was dating a girl from back home in Middle River, who had also come to Ontario, Muriel MacKenzie, to work as a registered nurse. "Mom knew dad back home and she knew he was in Ontario, too," Sharon said. "It was a time when a lot of Maritimers came to Ontario from Nova Scotia for work and opportunities."

Charlie and Muriel were married for 54 years. They lived in Toronto for a time, Sharon said, with Mr. Churchill selling automobiles and Muriel working as a registered hospital nurse, but his love for rural life and harness racing inevitably

drew him toward country life.

They lived in Morganston for six years before moving to Colborne.

Mr. Churchill was an avid horseman who was involved with the trotters for years in harness racing at Kawartha Downs track near Peterborough, as well as at tracks near Ottawa and in Quebec.

He was also an active Rotarian, she said, winning a Paul Harris Fellowship, the Rotary Club's top individual award and named after its founder.

Charles Jr., 49, recalled that he and his dad opened Churchill Motors in Colborne, selling gas and automobiles, in 1974 and ran it for a decade. In 1986, they opened the 8,300-sq.-ft. Brighton Tire and Duoplast Manufacturing in the Brighton Industrial Park, which continues in business with a third generation, Jason Churchill, 31, Charles Jr.'s son, now working for the companies.

Charlie Churchill will be interred back home in the Middle River Cemetery in Cape Breton.

DEATH NOTICES

ALLCORN, LORNA ISABEL

Promoted to Glory at the Golden Plough Lodge in Cobourg on Thursday, February 10th, 2005, Lorna Allcorn at 91 years of age. Predeceased by her husband Charles B. Allcorn and her sister Margaret Medler. A Funeral Service will be held at the Salvation Army Citadel (59 Ballantine St. Cobourg) on Thursday February 17th, 2005 at 11 a.m. Spring interment at Lakeport Cemetery. Those wishing may make a memorial contribution by cheque to the Salvation Army Missionary Society. Arrangements by MacCoubrey Funeral Home - (905) 372-5132. Condolences received at www.maccoubrey.com

CHRONICLE Feb. 17/05

CHURCHILL, CHARLES MALCOLM "CHARLIE" (Brighton Tire)

At his residence, in Colborne, on Thursday, February 10, 2005, age 76 years. Charlie Churchill, son of the late Jack Inglis Churchill and the late Eliza (MacRae). Loving husband of Muriel (MacKenzie), for 54 years. Dear father of Charles Churchill and his wife Elaine of Colborne, and Sharon and her husband Jim Morrow of Middle River, Cape Breton Island. Dear brother of Lloyd Churchill, and Ellen and her husband Norm Robinson. Predeceased by his sister-in-law Margaret. Sadly missed by his grandchildren, Jason, Erin, Daniel and his wife Michelle, Marcie and her husband Michael, Megan and Donald, and his great grandchildren, Lizzy, Gabby, and Autumn. For years Charlie was a keen businessman, an avid horseman, and an active Rotarian. The family will receive friends at the Walas Funeral Home, 130 Main Street, Brighton, on Wednesday, February 16th, 2005 from 6 - 9 p.m. At Charlie's request there will be no funeral service. Cremation with interment Middle River Cemetery, Cape Breton. As an expression of sympathy, donations to Canadian Cancer Society or the Vourneen "Buff" Jack Memorial Centre, Colborne, care of Box 96, Brighton, Ontario, K0K 1H0, would be appreciated by the family. www.walasfuneralhome.com

Paramedic meal deal could cost county \$800,000 a year

COLBORNE
by JOHN CAMPBELL
The Independent

You're being rushed to hospital in an ambulance when the paramedics pull over to the side of the road to have a bite to eat.

Far-fetched? Certainly. The next one is true: Frontenac County was fined \$1,500 for breaching the Employment Standards Act which provides that no employee shall work more than five consecutive hours without being allowed an "eating period of at least 30 minutes."

Frontenac got dinged when an investigation of paramedic work logs by the Ministry of Labour found

six contraventions in an audit of 300 shifts that took place between July 1 and Aug. 2, 2004.

The implications of that ruling are making other counties nervous. "It could have very, very serious consequences for upper tier municipalities that operate ambulance services,"

Northumberland County chief administrative officer Bill Pyatt told county council Feb. 9. "If we were bound by that same requirement, it would be about an \$800,000 a year cost to the county," to hire an extra crew and supervisor to cover situations that happen "fairly infrequent-

ly," two per cent of the time in Frontenac's case.

Mr. Pyatt told council that Frontenac "tried to re-align with the Ministry of Labour" that its paramedics never missed a meal but sometimes took them late. They monitored their own time and ate when possible under the circumstances. The ministry held firm, and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care subsequently indicated that it is not prepared to offer any assistance.

Lisa Ainsworth, from the county's human resources department, told council that Northumberland provides a 30-minute meal

break for its employees between the fourth and sixth hour in an eight hour shift, and between the 10th and 12th hour in a 12 hour shift. Employees who have not had a chance to eat within five-and-a-half hours of starting their shift are to contact their duty officer, who will work with dispatch "to facilitate the scheduling of the meal break at the earliest opportunity," she said.

Frontenac's audit arose "presumably from a complaint from staff," Mr. Pyatt said. None has been brought forward in Northumberland. Mr. Pyatt said the county

would have to hire two-man crews and a supervisor to look after scheduling for each of the eight hour and 12 hour shifts worked by its 84 full-time and part-time paramedics.

He noted that the ambulance dispatch centre in Lindsay, which handles calls for Northumberland, "would not be able to help in the scheduling."

Mr. Pyatt later admitted the \$800,000 projected cost was a conservative estimate and could rise to as much as \$1 million a year.

"The whole discussion is just plain dumb," said Trent Hills Mayor Hector Macmillan, who found it

ludicrous that paramedics are not treated the same as police and firefighters who, as emergency personnel, are governed by different rules for taking meal breaks.

Northumberland voted to support Frontenac in its lobbying to have paramedics be granted the same exemption, so as not to place patients "at mortal risk". The issue has been taken up by the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus and will be raised at the upcoming Rural Ontario Municipal Association/Ontario Good Roads Association conference later this month.

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