

Joyce and Henry Buchegger celebrate 50th anniversary

By Bob Owen
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How many couples can say that everything they have desired and dreamed, they have gone out and done?

Henry and Joyce Buchegger met in Toronto 51 years ago. A year later, on the way to a course in California, they married in Seattle, Washington.

As Joyce says, she was on her way back to Bolivia where she was doing mission work. Henry was on his way to California to take training. It was now or never. They married Oct. 17, 1957 and spent the next six years in the South American country. After a brief furlough, they were back, this time to Paraguay.

Looking out over the crowd of close to 100 gathered for the occasion, Joyce admitted she had wondered if anyone would come.

On a lighter note she joked, "Love is blind - marriage is a real eye-opener."

Joyce closed her remarks with a quote from Victor Hugo, "The supreme happiness in life is the conviction that we are loved, loved for ourselves, or rather, in spite of ourselves."

Not one to miss an opportunity to entertain, Henry took advantage of the stage.

He reflected on how they were united in prayer and had always been a good team. They were opposites who worked effectively together.

With a mischievous smile on his face and an underlying message in his story, Henry recounted at the Eddystone party how he adjusted to marriage.

Marriage counseling wasn't readily available 50 years ago says Henry. The model of man as head of the house and wife as subject didn't seem fitting, so he resorted to the Bible. When the



PHOTO BY BOB OWEN
Joyce and Henry Buchegger cut the cake at their 50th wedding anniversary party in Eddystone Church hall Oct. 20.

meets in the Calvary Temple in Belleville.

Numerous people stood up during the program to tell how Joyce and Henry had helped them and guided them over the years.

Juan Coca, with the

have been blessed. Cynthia's comment, "You enrich your life when you give to others," is an accurate reflection of the Bucheggers and their experiences.

examples of Adam and Eve and Solomon failed to give him the model he sought, he looked to his contemporaries.

He settled on Prince Philip and Queen Elizabeth. Philip did not run Buckingham Palace; that was the Queen's role. Henry resolved that he would get to enjoy the palace if he made Joyce happy. Joyce is the queen of his home.

On a more serious note, Henry recalled the day Joyce became his hero.

On a day off during their mission work, they had been loaned a rowboat which belonged to a poor fisherman. While rowing down a swiftly moving river, Henry lost a valuable oar. Within seconds, Joyce was in the water swimming downstream in pursuit. With oar in hand, she swam to the shore. It was one in a long line of acts of bravery and kindness.

The couple has had a long history of service to their God, with missions in South America, school-building in Mexico, a trip to Israel.

In 1972, they settled in Castleton, but their service did not end there.

About 18 years ago, they became a part of the creation of the Iglesia Fuente de Agua Viva - a Spanish congregation which

translating assistance of his daughter Adriana, told how he owns a house today because of the generosity of the couple.

Others spoke of how the couple has contributed to the growth and maintenance of faith in the tiny Eddystone congregation and elsewhere.

In an emotional presentation, Phyllis Dale recalled how her mother Phyllis Watts had written to Joyce every week for the many years of her ministry. Mrs. Watts had been Joyce's Sunday School teacher in the Salvation Army.

The Castleton United Church Women's group now has two members doing the secretarial work Joyce did faithfully for 28 years.

Three of the six Buchegger children were on hand at the Oct. 20 party. Philip, Ingrid and Cynthia all live in Ontario. Only Bernie on an oil rig off the coast of Scotland, Heidi, teaching in South Korea and Erica in Hillsburgh were unable to attend.

Philip, the eldest Buchegger child, passed on Heidi's congratulations and acknowledgement of their parents' faith.

Cynthia, the baby of the family, spoke of her parents' life serving God, adding that they

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BLACK, Linda Jean - Suddenly as the result of a motor vehicle accident in Warkworth on Tuesday, October 16th, 2007, age 52 years. Linda Black of Warkworth, daughter of Jean (Anderson) Hope of Warkworth and the late Bruce Hope. Loving wife of Rick Black. Dear mother of Rob Black and Jackie Botham, and John Black and Stephanie Bates, all of Warkworth. Sister of Brenda Doidge of Campbellford, and Robert Hope of Warkworth. Sadly missed by her nieces, Hope and Holly Doidge. The family will receive friends at the **WALAS FUNERAL HOME**, 70 Church Street, Warkworth on Sunday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Service at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Warkworth on Monday, October 22nd, 2007 at 11 o'clock. Cremation with interment Stones Cemetery, Norham. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Ontario Heart and Stroke Association, or the Charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.
www.walasfuneralhome.com

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