

HOCKEY HERITAGE

Thursday, March 9, 2017
Special 4 page pullout section

GEORGETOWN • ACTON metroland media
The Independent.
& FREE PRESS
CONNECTED TO YOUR COMMUNITY THE FRCA



Hockey Heritage recipient Campbell's efforts rewarded

By Eamonn Maher
emaher@theifp.ca

several organizations at the same time the Jr. A Raiders, minor hockey, minor lacrosse, the Georgetown Hockey Heritage Council and the Halton Hills Sports Museum.

I thought my friend Jamie (volunteered for) everything, but he's not even close to what Sheila's done, said Dundas resident Hebscher, known well for his days dishing out the Hebsy Awards on Global-TV's Sportsline.

Charlie Hanman of the community-owned-and-operated Jr. A Raiders asked Campbell to join the executive in 1991 and she was enlisted to carry out a wide range of duties, such as organizing the awards banquet and billeting players.

For 20 years she oversaw the 50/50 draws and the admission table, perhaps getting a break for a few minutes of the third period to actually watch the games, which the basement-dwelling Raiders often lost. Yet the team had one of the best attendance totals in the league because it was mainly stocked with local-area players.

She joined the Georgetown Minor Hockey Association executive in 1994 after years as a supporter and assumed the monumental task of reviewing its constitution and drafting a set of by-laws to bring the organization into line with the Ontario Minor Hockey Association.

Timekeeping, tournament registration and handing out trophies to the kids were among her responsibilities with the GMHA and many of the friendships struck up through volunteering remain intact today.

She confided, however, that performing those often-thankless volunteer duties did eventually come with a reward other than the usual satisfaction of performing a community service.

Campbell was interviewed by an employer for a job and the part of her resume' that listed



The Ford Girls could always be found at Georgetown Raiders home games sitting behind the players bench as kids where Hockey Heritage Award recipient Sheila Campbell (second from left) discovered a brand new language, never to be repeated in front of our mother. (Theresa, second from right). Also in the photo from left are Sheila's sisters Andrea Campbell, June Peacock and Geraldine Hardcastle.

Photo by Eamonn Maher

her volunteer involvement had a serendipitous effect.

A couple of days later he phoned me about the job and said that he had someone else in mind for it, but he said that after hearing everything I'd been volunteering for, he felt that was the kind of work ethic (he was looking for) and decided to give me a chance.

She was also one of the founders of Best of the Best Thanksgiving Classic and in 2002 undertook the hosting of the OMHA Foundation's visit to Georgetown for two years, allowing underprivileged children to play hockey.

She received the Jim Mackie Award in 1993, 1997 and 2001 for her volunteering in minor hockey and was the recipient of the Georgetown Hockey Heritage Citation Award in 2010.

Campbell, now 57, fondly recalled the Friday

night excursions with her father Jim Ford and her three sisters to Memorial Arena to watch the Intermediate A Raiders from behind the players bench, and of spring and summer days playing in and volunteering for the Kinsmen Girls Softball League.

Ford, the 1983 Hockey Heritage Award recipient, died on Jan. 20 at age 84. Her older sister Geraldine was the Hockey Heritage honouree in 2011 to complete the triumvirate.

Some of Campbell's favourite memories came on Sunday mornings in December when the four-year-olds in the introductory program would get a chance to sit on the knee of Santa (Ford), with Sheila acting as the good elf and Geraldine the bad elf.

That's another duty that I will also cherish, she said.



Ron Lefebvre of the Kinsmen Club of Georgetown presents 2017 Hockey Heritage Award recipient Sheila Campbell with her portrait after receiving the honour Monday night in Acton. The Kinsmen Club began sponsoring the Hockey Heritage dinner 25 years ago when Campbell's late father, Jim Ford, won the award.

Photo by Eamonn Maher

FITZPATRICK

WINDOWS & DOOR SYSTEMS

Georgetown, Ontario



CUT ENERGY COSTS NOW!

Locally owned & operated in Halton Hills for over 17 years!



BOW WINDOW



PATIO & GARDEN DOORS



HIGH EFFICIENCY ENTRANCE DOORS



SLIDE & TILT FOR EASY CLEANING

CALL NOW FOR EARLY
SPRING SPECIAL
FULLY LICENSED & INSURED

For Free Consultation & Estimate Call
905-703-6344