

'WE WILL NEVER KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE HE HELPED'

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Year for 2021.

The father of two said he was "very surprised and honoured" to receive the recognition, but quickly turned the spotlight on local residents' efforts to give generously when there's a need.

"Our community is amazing — they give back in a big way," he said. "I'm proud to be a very, very small part of that, to be able to help others."

As a four-time cancer survivor, it seems only fitting that he helped organize Tour the Hills, one of the biggest fundraisers for Cancer Assistance Services of Halton Hills (CASHh).

MacDonald said he used CASHh's transportation services in the past to attend cancer treatments at Princess Margaret, vowing

to give back when he could.

This giving spirit carried over into his endeavours at Georgetown Chevrolet, where he first worked as a general manager. Today, he has the unique opportunity to serve as the dealership's community ambassador, bringing local causes to the company's attention.

"The dealership is very big in supporting the community and giving back," he noted.

When MacDonald learned that the youth centres in town were struggling financially and at risk of closing, he — along with others — helped form the Community Alliance Reaching Everyone (CARE) organization to raise funds and awareness for youth at risk.

CARE's popular fundraising event, Movie Under

the Stars, has brought in thousands for the youth centres over the past five years.

Other organizations that have benefitted from MacDonald's efforts include the Salvation Army, Georgetown Breadbasket, local schools, Business Cares Christmas program, Classics Against Cancer and many more.

The humble man also served on the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce's board of directors for 11 years, including a term as president and some time spent as co-chair of the organization's golf tournament.

Past chamber general manager Kathleen Dills, who put MacDonald's name forth for the Citizen of the Year award, characterized him as "a listener — perhaps the best I have



Graham Paine/Metroland

Glen MacDonald has dedicated his time and resources to many local organizations.

met."

"He would hear of a need or situation he could help with through connections or just by showing up," she wrote in her nomination

letter. "This is where Glen goes stealth and, honestly, we will never know how many people he helped."

So, what's the most rewarding part of giving back

for MacDonald?

"Seeing results," he said. "When you hear about someone who was in trouble, but a few years later they're off to university — it keeps you going. It keeps you motivated."

MacDonald has been married to wife Dale for almost 40 years. They have two children, Cailleigh and Kyle, and daughter-in-law Leona.

Due to pandemic-related uncertainty about group gatherings, an award presentation ceremony hasn't been scheduled yet.

STORY BEHIND THE STORY: With the Georgetown Lions Club honouring a local resident annually as Citizen of the Year, we wanted to take a closer look at how Glen MacDonald has made a difference in the community.

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