

Letters to the editor

Ron appreciates visitors

Dear editor:

"They" say that laughter is the best medicine. "They" say that anyone can survive or overcome if you have the love of friends and family, behind you and supporting you.

As a child, "They" were some pretty important people to be reckoned with. I never had much experience with those phrases. I could only imagine what kind of person(s) it takes to accomplish that.

To actually be a significant part of helping someone overcome, survive a tragedy, illness or loss just be being there. Sharing a memory of lending an ear.

Until this year I have always been on the outside looking in so to speak. As many of our friends have heard through the grapevine connection, my brother Ron Hachey had a brain aneurysm May 27. Then one week later he suffered a very bad stroke, leaving him unable to move his right side, unable to speak and so many other complications.

Here it is four months later, he has come such a long way. We may not see it all the time but it must seem like an eternity to him.

With constant therapy, he now has movement on the right, making verbal sounds, eating and drinking on his own. He has even chorded his guitar while someone strums for him. It has been major feats for Ron.

Every Sunday, Jim, Sue, Mom and I go to Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Toronto and we sing some old

tunes from the Hollywood days, tunes from happier days. We're even springin' new country music on him. He taps his feet or hands, cries to the sadder songs, laughs at our jokes, makes fun of my trials and tribulations (without speaking). Sometimes we'll remind him of happier or funnier times and although his brain and body has suffered trauma, we've touched the inner Ron, he laughs like the Ron we've laughed with before.

Ron enjoys visitors, he seems to recognize most people. Telling him who you are and of an occasion you've shared may trigger a memory, this helps him go on, helps him heal.

I truly believe that by visiting Ron makes him feel that he still belongs, still has reason to fight, to work, to benefit from tedious therapy, to beat depression.

So, we wish to extend an open invitation to all of Ron's friends, compadres and golfing buddies to join in our quest to get Ron back on track. Enjoying his friends, family, and life once again. Feel free to contact us if you'd like to jam with us or join us entertaining Ron (and his fellow Q.E. patients) Sunday afternoons. Best visiting times after 4 p.m. during week, anytime on weekends.

Isn't it funny how "They" are usually right? "They" should really have a 1-800-number. T

Thank you for letting me express the deep concern and love we have for our brother and his recovery.

JoAnn Hachey

Acton Cancer Society thanks all

Dear editor:

On behalf of the Acton branch of the Canadian Cancer Society, I would like to thank Country Reflections for the generous donation of the decorative basket and Mulligan Grill for the luncheon for two which they donated as prizes at our second annual

Pigeon Race held at the Acton Fall Fair; it is great to see the support afforded the Acton branch by the local businesses, organizations and committees. Thank you all very much.

Pat Kentner, Publicity Rep.
Acton branch, Canadian Cancer Society

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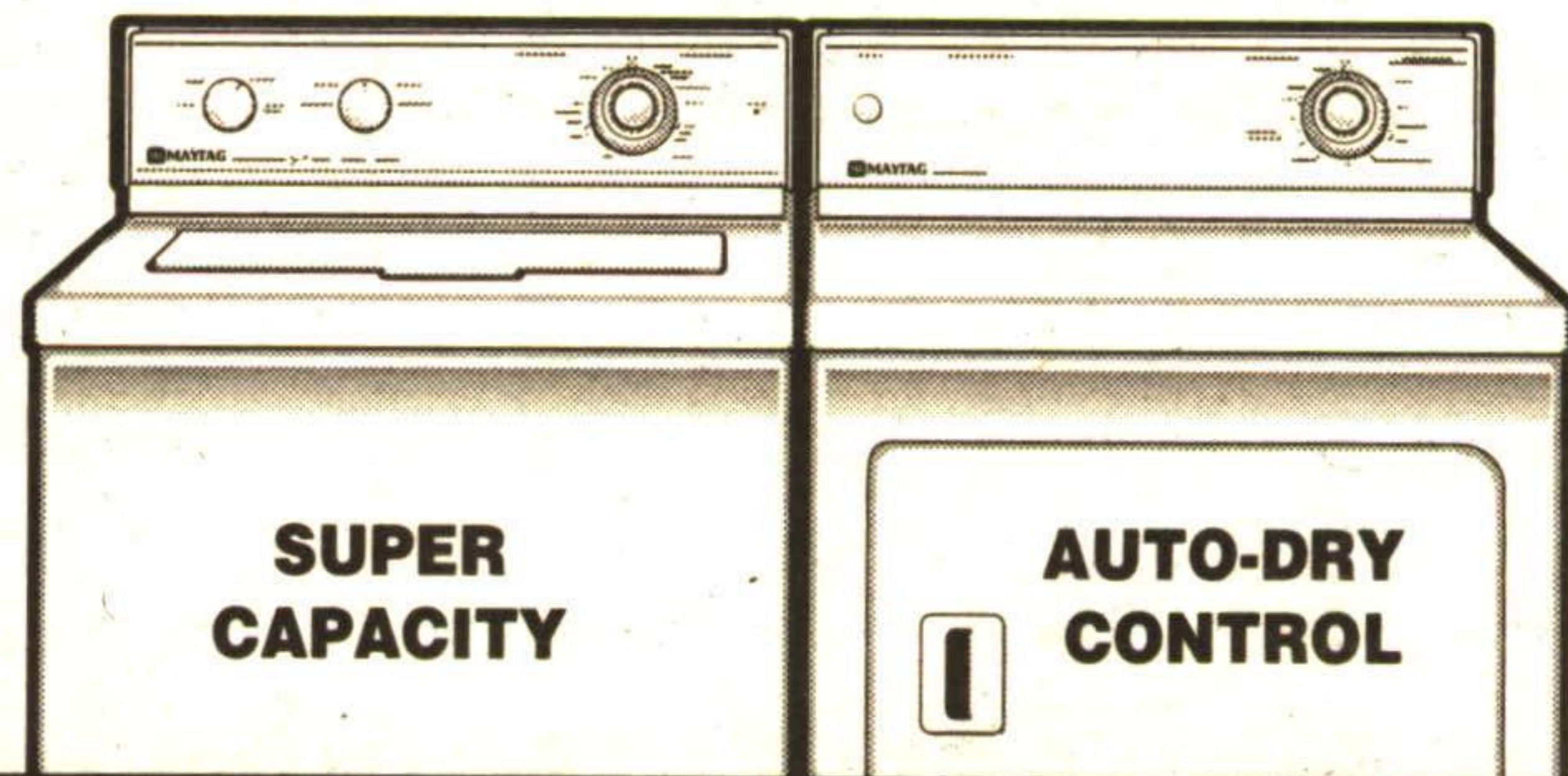


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