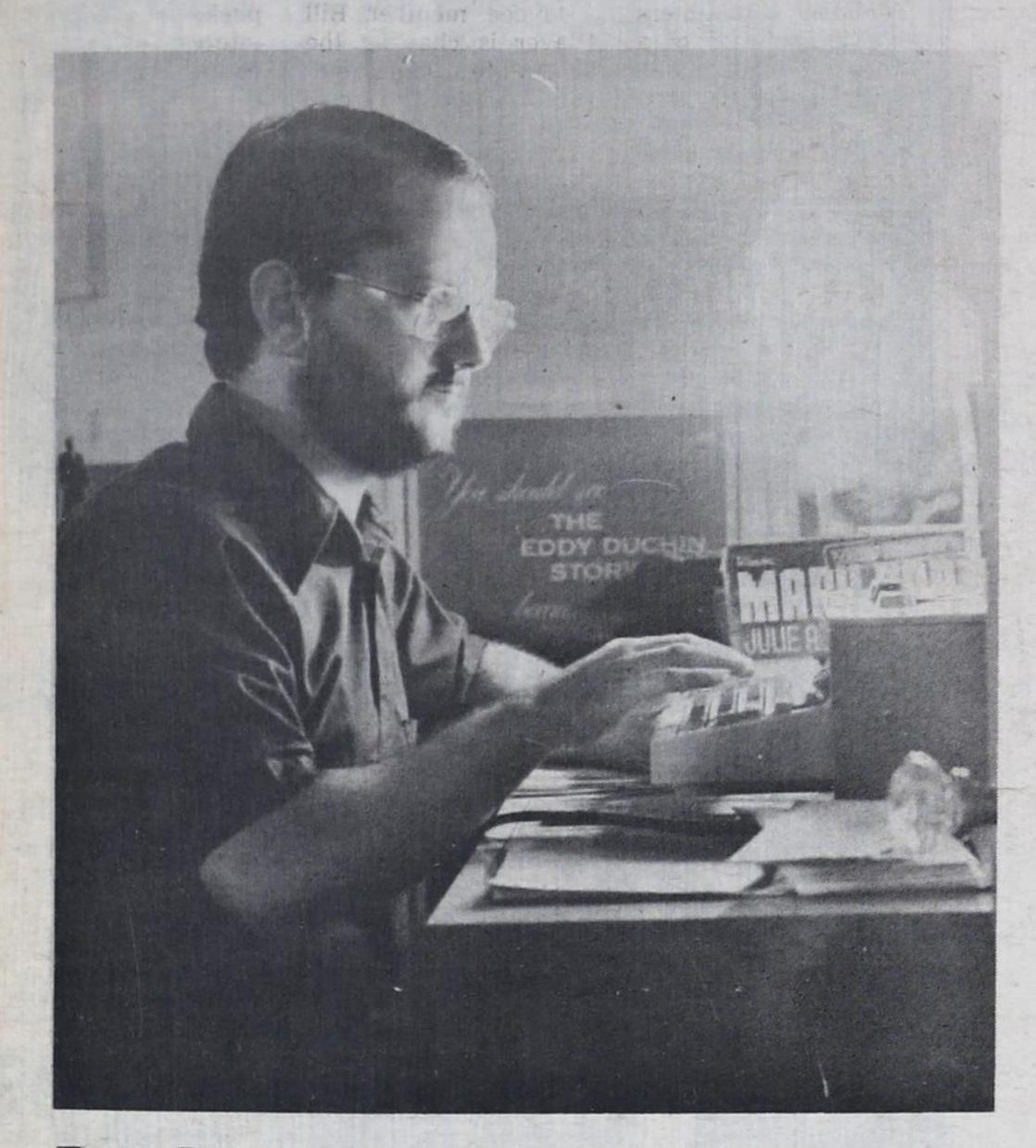
# Movies are Penetang man's best friend

## Backgrounder on Terry Dupuis



**Terry Dupuis** 

#### by Murray Moore

The walls of Terry Dupuis' study in a house on Penetanguishene's Church Street are covered with movie studio stills of famous movie stars. Myrna Loy's picture is autographed.

Several bookcases with their shelves filled end to end with paperback and hardcover biographies of movie stars and histories of film line the walls. Charlton Heston's memoirs are signed.

Movie theatre lobby posters share space on the walls with the framed stills. Terry has reviewed movies on a weekly basis since 1974. He thinks he could up his output to two reviews a week. Terry is a movie nut.

#### Movies

His love of movies has taken him as far as New York, for a convention, and Toronto, where Heston signed his memoirs for Terry during a promotion in the Eaton Centre. Terry takes in a movie if he happens to be in Toronto, but generally he sees them closer to home. The doors of the theatres in Penetang and Midland, and in Barrie, are always open: he has passes.

He remembers the first movie he ever saw. It was at a Saturday matinee. He liked the Devil Girl from Mars, a British sciencefiction film, at the time, but he hasn't seen it since, and he isn't sure he wants to see it.

"Some movies," he explained, "you don't see for years, and when you do see them, they don't hold up at all."

Terry readily admits that not all movies deemed worthy of being committed to celluloid are worthy of immortality. There was a period when, in his opinion, films were "really wretched." In the late Sixties and early Seventies, he feels, all the movies seemed to be the same, without plots or any aspect to interest a viewer.

The turnaround year, the year when he started to go to movies again, was 1974. He says he went to only six movies in 1972, and he rattled five titles off from memory on the spot: The Godfather, Cabaret, The Last Picture Show, The Poseidon Adventure, Frenzy.

Terry sees himself in his writing as more of a reviewer than a critic. He tries to tell the reader what the movie is about, and let the reader make up his own mind, he says.

His reviews have never prompted a letter. But "I do get feedback when people see me around town. A lot of people here read my reviews who don't go to movies, but they like to keep up."

"People disagree with my reviews too." "One woman stopped me on the street, upset because I had given The China Syn-

drome a good review. She was upset, not because of the movie, which she hadn't seen, but because Jane Fonda was in it."

#### Jane Fonda

"Don't you know that Jane Fonda is a Communist? she asked me. I told her that I was reviewing the film, not her politics. A few strange things like that have happened."

No other reviewer has him for a regular reader. "If I pick up a newspaper or magazine with a movie review, I'll read it. I used to read more than I do now."

"I think that reviews do influence people. If you read somebody like Clyde Gilmour (Toronto Star movie reviewer) you have his review in mind when you go to see the movie."

#### **Elwy Yost**

Elwy Yost of TV Ontario's Saturday Night at the Movies got a gold star from Terry because movies screened on the show are not interrupted by commercials. Also Yost chooses older movies quite often.

Terry admires older movies but he isn't an unreformed nostalgia nut. His favourite actors range from Gary Cooper, John Wayne, James Cagney, Tyrone Power through William Holden, Charton Heston, Burt Lancaster to Robert TRedford, John voight and Dustin Hoffman:

His favourite actor isn't in his favourite movie. The actor who does star in Barry Lyndon, Ryan O-Neal, isn't the same type as Terry's favourite actor, for whose autograph he drove to Toronto: Charlton Heston.

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