

# Married for 65 years

# John and Edna Bridges

—by Bob Murray  
At a reception held at St. Paul's United Church here on Sunday afternoon, family and friends gathered to pay tribute to John and Edna Bridges of

Midland on the occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary.

During the afternoon's festivities, the Bridges received tributes on their achievement from the

Federal and Provincial governments, Simcoe County, Al McLean, MPP, Doug Lewis, MP., and Tiny Township Reeve Morris Darby to name but a few.

Having been residents

of Midland since 1929, the Bridges spent a full afternoon recalling old times with a steady stream of visitors and well-wishers.

Both John and Edna were born in St. John John, New Brunswick, just prior to the turn of the century. They were married on Sept. 26, 1917.

Mr. Bridges worked for the Atlantic Sugar Company until about 1920, when he took a job with the CPR. With this move, the Bridges spent half the year in Port McNicoll and the other half in St. John.

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In 1929, John, Edna and their children moved to Midland on a permanent basis.

During the time Mr. Bridges worked as an electrician at the CPR sheds, several interesting situations arose. At one time John had the task of feeding over 100 cats that he cared for at the sheds. The cats rewarded him for this by keeping the rat population to a minimum.

During the winters, when the roads from Midland to Port McNicoll were snowed in, John skied to work and back across country, towed by the family's police dog Buster.

Mrs. Bridges was also kept busy over the years, raising their four children; Don, Marg, Ray and Daryl.

As well as being a

housewife and mother, Edna became active in the Hospital Auxiliary, the UCW at St. Paul's United Church and the Rebekah Lodge. Mrs. Bridges also worked for a time as a clerk at the Walkers Store in Midland.

The Bridges retired in 1958, only to take up other pursuits. John became interested in the construction of the Indian Village at Little Lake and worked with Wilfrid Jury on its construction. He subsequently managed the facility for 10 years after its completion.

Both John and Edna have become active in the Senior Citizen Club and are kept busy in the role of grandparents to 10 grandchildren and 13

real grandchildren. Being an avid hunter and fisherman over the years, John (and Edna) were very proud of a 23 pound Muskie, caught by John on a fishing trip with Dean Nicholls only a few years ago. Both John and Dean had to battle the "monster" into the boat.

Midland Curling Club also holds a spot in John's heart, being active in the sport until he was 82, John can still be found watching the action from the lounge.

The Bridges have reason to be proud of their achievement and we wish them well in the years to come.



## Interest in local affairs at low ebb?

"This is a normal crowd," Midland Mayor Moreland Lynn said with tongue-in-cheek Monday night.

He was commenting on the fact that only one person was seated in the audience to watch local law-makers in action.

As for the meeting it was almost a record-setter lasting only 56 minutes.

Council's quickest meeting was clocked at 40 minutes last year.

## LUCKY WINNER

**Mrs. Emily Robinson,  
Islington, Ontario.**

is the winner of a trip to **Puerto Rico** courtesy of Terri's Travel, Edwards Village Square.

The contest was part of the grand opening celebration of Terri's Travel.



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