

## The Farmers of South Marysburgh

### Emlawacres—George & Sandra Emlaw & Family



Both Sandra and I are descended from the first wave of United Empire Loyalist settlers who came to South Marysburgh from downstate New York in 1784. Our maternal family name was

Hicks and we were always involved in agriculture and the development of South Marysburgh Township so I grew up in a farming atmosphere. Agriculture and a love of animals was always my passion. I attended Kemptville Agricultural College for two years before we married.

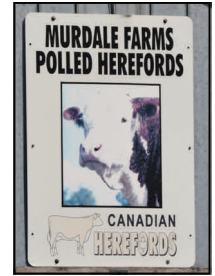
We rented a farm in South Marysburgh until we were able to buy the farm on County Road 13 known as *Emlawacres* in 1965. We have always been dairy farmers, the same as our ancestors until I had health problems in 1998. We were able to sell our entire herd of purebred Holstein's to a Swiss immigrant near Listowell who had much the same objectives as us. We were then able to buy and sell replacement cattle for export to a very lucrative US market because of a favorable exchange rate until a cattle disease known as BST closed the American border in 2002, ending that industry as we knew it overnight.

In the year 2000 we began concentrating on cash crops, including hay for export to the US, wheat and soybeans. Agriculture has been good to us and we were able to raise our family of three girls in the wonderful community of South Marysburgh and have tried to give back something through our community involvement.

Our family has truly been blessed. We are lucky enough to have our children and grandchildren close by, making their lives in South Marysburgh and enjoying this wonderful location along with our many family members, friends and neighbours.

### Janet & Doug Murphy and Family – Murdale Farms

The present Murdale farms acreage originated from a crown patent of 200 acres in 1801. The original name of John Forsyth (a military officer) was put on the deed when the land was surveyed as was the practice in those days.



The farm was transferred through the Ackerman side of our family because my mother was an Ackerman. In 1834, the first Ackerman started farming our homestead and around 1850 our present home was constructed. Murphy Road was created around this time by splitting the farms that stretched from County Road 10 to Black Creek. The farm now consists of additional acreages added over the years from the small Welbanks and Farrington farms.

The farm was always a mixed farm of dairy, crops and apple orchards from 1834 and through five generations. My mother, Corinne Ackerman, married Rupert Murphy in 1939 and we purchased it in 1973.

Murdale Farms bred purebred Holstein cattle, with our first home-bred 'Excellent Cow' being awarded in 2006. We sold the dairy portion of the farm in 2006 and bred Hereford purebreds until 2014. Our farm now grows wheat, hay and soybeans together with Millcreek peas. We have three children - Erin, Greg and Anne - who worked on the farm while going to school helping to continue this heritage.

### Millerdale Farm—Glendon and Brent Walker

Millerdale Farm has a long-standing history dating back to the late 1800s.



Originally founded by James Miller, Millerdale

Farm was passed down two generations to Donald Walker, and is currently owned by his son, Glendon and grandson, Brent Walker. Over the years, the farm has had a diverse and varied focus farming cash crops, dairy cattle, tomato plants, beef cattle and the present day operation of Walker's Greenhouse. Millerdale Farm is currently operated by three generations of Walkers and is proudly founded in the rich heritage of the South Marysburgh community.

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