Patricia Back Celebrates 90 Years of Wonderful Memories With Family at "The Back Acres"

By Beverley Bicknell

Friends and family gathered on Oct. 8, at Parsons Brewing to celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of a long-time South Marysburgh resident, Patricia Back.

Patricia and her husband, Robert (Bob), purchased their property in the early 1960's on Morrison Point Rd. Since falling in love with the County while visiting her brother-in-law's family at West Lake, they had searched the area for some time to find a suitable place to build a summer retreat for their growing family of five daughters.

Several relatives of hers had also been looking for land to purchase and when the sale was finalized, arrangements were made to sub divide into individual lots and her parents, two sisters, and her brother joined them and began to build. The property was then christened as "The Back Acres".

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Patricia Black

Starting out as campers travelling from their Scarborough, Ontario home, the generosity of local farmer Benton Goodman, who allowed them to store their equipment in his barn between trips, made life a lot easier. Cottages were built as funds became available, with everyone helping each other in the time honoured "barn raising" tradition. We even all helped dig out a swimming pool on one lot!

Bob and Pat are longtime members of the St Philips Church, Milford and were part of the Mummers Group. Bob

was also well known in the area for his participation in many church and community choirs.

There are many memories that can be shared from this amazing place. For more than 40 years, we have held an "International Day" on the August long weekend. Each year, a country has been selected and all families researched and found recipes, costumes and music from that country and along with invited guests, there could be up to 60 attendees participating in a Pot Luck dinner. As the numbers grew, we had to start splitting into two meals of lunch and supper, and the year the USA was chosen, even a "walk through" breakfast meal a la McDonalds was held. Countries celebrated range from France, China, Hungary, Israel, Ethiopia, and beyond.

Other shenanigans that took place included when one family decided to visit a local Hamburger/Chip stand instead of cooking supper. The word soon spread throughout the compound, and all descended on the hapless proprietor. Seeing that he was overwhelmed by the volume of orders, members of the family quickly stepped in to help man the grill. I'm sure that this is an occasion that he long remembered.

Baseball games were regularly held in the "Back Forty" with all ages participating.

Any summer that young visitors arrived saw a visit from the "Picton Pirates". A treasure map, often found by the shore

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