

# Harold and Ev Spofford have happy memories

STOUFFVILLE — Yesterday, (May 21), was Harold Spofford's 92nd birthday. He and wife Evelyn celebrated the occasion quietly in their residence at Parkview Home. However, for someone able to recall dates and places without hesitation, it's safe to say Harold's memory reflected on earlier years and 'the good times' related to his initial association with Stouffville.

Harold was born in Grey County, about 20 miles from Collingwood. He became connected with the 'business world' through the operation of an egg grading station at Lindsay. The station was associated with the creamery there. The grading was done in a vault of the old post office. In a period of only seven years, Harold was handling up to 1,300 cases of thirty

dozen eggs a week. The station served a wide area. Twelve to fifteen cents a dozen was considered a fair price.

A conversation between Mrs. A.V. Nolan, (Charles Nolan's mother), and Harold's sister-in-law, Dora, one day on the train, prompted them to purchase the Shaw Store, then located on the north-east corner of Main and Mill Streets in Stouffville. This was the start of a successful business operation that would continue through 15 years.

Harold and Evelyn employed many people during that time. Names like Flossie Barkey, Helen Nicely, Jean Hosie, Alma Burkholder, Florence Miller and Mrs. Ed Nigh flash through their minds as they recall the success of their operation.

Harold remembers the Main Street lined with cars on a Saturday night and the sidewalks packed with people. "Folks came early and stayed late, it was their evening's entertainment," he recalls with a smile.

"The people, including many of staunch Mennonite stock, were good to deal with. They would buy and pay for their goods on the spot," he said. The majority, he could call by name, and those he couldn't, were recognizable by a familiar face.

Harold accepts none of the credit for the success of Spofford & Company. "All the credit goes to my wife," he says.

Harold Spofford put back into Stouffville much more than he ever took out. He served on Village Council and was active in the Lions Club.

In 1958, he and Evelyn sold out to the late Harold 'Dutch' Thurston and took up residence on Hawkridge Avenue, Markham. Fourteen months ago, they parted with their Markham home and moved to Parkview.

Visiting with Stouffville friends and talking over old times is enjoyable for Harold and Ev. The affectionate handshake and pleasant smile is the same today as yesterday. The community says 'Happy Birthday' Harold and many more to come.



Harold and Evelyn Spofford operated the Spofford & Company store at the corner of Mill and Market Streets, Stouffville, fourteen years. They now reside in

Parkview Home. May 21, (yesterday), was Mr Spofford's 92nd birthday. —Jim Thomas



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## The day was too short

Dear Editor,  
Since it's impossible for me to write each member on the Garibaldi Reunion Committee, I hope you won't mind me using your newspaper to reach them all. I feel they did a tremendous job and are deserving of thanks from everyone in attendance.

To start such a venture from scratch boggles my mind. Not only did the committee take it on but they followed it through to a successful conclusion. Homecomings aren't unusual. Most often, however, they occur on special occasions, like anniversaries, sod-turnings, official openings and the like. But this one didn't. It just happened. My only regret was that the day was too

short. There were people I wanted to see but couldn't. I ran out of time. I guess I talked too long to too few. My thanks to those who made all this possible. You can rest assured we enjoyed it to the full.

Sincerely,  
Aileen Murphy,  
Islington, Ont.

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