

Don and Pauline Ratcliff

Anniversary couple hosts to hundreds

It was an occasion Don and Pauline Ratcliff will never forget, a milestone in their lives as was their wedding day 50 years ago.

Close to 300 family relatives and friends gathered Sunday afternoon at the Sheraton Parkway, Hwy. 7 and Leslie Street to honor one of this area's best known and most highly respected couples.

The celebration was in honor of their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Don Ratcliff and Pauline Boardway were married July 24, 1938 in the Stouffville United Missionary Church. Rev. Brubacher conducted the ceremony. Their attendants were Charles Ratcliff, now of Huntsville and Evelyn (Dougherty) Wagg of Stouffville. Fay (O'Neill) Minton was their flowergirl.

Following a honeymoon trip to New York city, they took up residence on the Ratcliff property, R.R. 4, Stouffville. They presently reside in the original family home.

Don is still involved in the very successful Ratcliff Lumber-

Century Mill operation, a business started by his great-grandfather the late William Ratcliff 136 years ago. A sixth family generation is now associated with the firm.

Don and Pauline are equally well known for their work in Stouffville Youth for Christ and Youth Time Radio. The radio broadcast, now in its 38th year, is aired over 18 stations around the world.

Youth for Christ meetings that attracted young people from all denominations, was initiated by Don and Pauline assisted by others in the community. Out of these gatherings originated the YFC choir. Fourteen former choir members, led by Dorie (Steckley) Pilkey and accompanied by Gladys Ratcliff sang two selections at the anniversary reunion Sunday.

The memories brought tears to the eyes of the celebrated couple.

Working alongside her husband, Pauline serves as secretary of the Youth Time Radio. She's also secretary of Bible Town with U.S. headquarters in Florida.

Devoted Christians, Don and Pauline are members in the congregation of Springvale Baptist Church. Don enjoys a close association with the Muskoka Baptist Conference. They spend several months each winter in Florida.

Don and Pauline are intensely proud of their family — three sons, Paul, Bud and Terry; one daughter Donna, (Mrs. David Milligan) and four grandchildren, Trevor and Cammie; Adam and Tiffany.

Don has three brothers, Charles of Huntsville; Floyd and Howard of Stouffville. Pauline has two brothers, Rev. Harold Boardway of Port Bolster; Rev. Ted Boardway of Lindsay and one sister Dorothy, (Mrs. Harris Hallman) of Hanover.

Friends, many from a distance, were warmly received as Don and Pauline greeted each guest personally. Mrs. Ratcliff described the presence of the former YFC choir and the singing of two favorite hymns was one of the highlights of their memorable afternoon.



Don and Pauline Ratcliff, R.R. 4, Stouffville, were honored by close to 300 family relatives, Sunday afternoon at the Sheraton Parkway, Hwy. 7 and Leslie Street. The occasion was their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Leadership camp

STOUFFVILLE — A third Sports and Leadership Camp, sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department, will commence Aug. 2 if sufficient numbers are interested.

A minimum of eleven young people (10 to 13 years) are required. The Camp can accommodate up to twenty-four.

It will run from Aug. 2 to Aug. 12. Boys and girls are welcome. The cost is \$153 per person.

Activities will include an over-night camp-out, bowling, windsurfing, golf, an afternoon at Pleasure Valley, and more.

Registrations are being accepted at the Town Rec. Centre this Thursday and Friday, (Aug. 28-29), between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Dr. Ron Smith was friend to urban-rural folks alike

STOUFFVILLE — When Dr. Ron Smith arrived in Stouffville from St. Catharines 43 years ago, the move marked a milestone in his life and in the life of this community.

For Dr. Smith later established a home and a business here. And he touched the lives of hundreds of people in the area.

'Doc Ron', as he was known to both urban and rural residents, died July 17 in Scarborough Centenary Hospital. He was 66.

It was following graduation from Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph, that Dr. Smith came to Stouffville and 'teamed up' with Dr. S.T. Bodendistel. Initially, they operated out of Dr. Bodendistel's house. Later, an office was established on Main Street West prior to the opening of the Stouffville Veterinary Clinic on the site of its location today.

Together, Dr. Bodendistel and Dr. Smith covered a wide agricultural district. They were on a first-name basis with most farmers in the area.

Dr. Smith had several assistants during his more than 20 years of practise here including the late Dr. Duncan Smith, Dr. Jack Cote, Drs. Denis and Terry O'Connor.

Large animals were his specialty including cows and horses. Ron's close association with horses made him a natural to serve as a veterinarian with the Ontario Racing Commission, a position he held for 22 years. He worked between tracks at Woodbine and Greenwood.

Ron was entitled to retire in 1987, but chose to continue an extra year.

Thirty-five years ago, Ron and Ruth Smith moved into the first house built on Fairview Avenue. He was intensely proud of his home and his family —

daughters Carol (Mrs. Charles Jackson), Stouffville; Beverley (Mrs. Glen Harris), Port Perry; Susan (Mrs. Lou Ditosto), Willowdale; son Patrick of Elora; 12 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. A sister, Mary Margaret resides near Lindsay. He was predeceased by two brothers and two sisters.

Keenly interested in sports, Ron closely followed local hockey and baseball. He served on the Stouffville Arena Board and pro-

vided transportation for hockey and ball players over hundreds of miles to various rinks and diamonds.

He was a member of the Unionville Curling Club.

Dr. Smith enjoyed people. He was always a welcomed visitor at the morning coffee club that meets regularly in The Regal Restaurant, Stouffville. Two of his closest friends were Harvey and Audrey Cox, now of Willowdale. Mr. Cox is a former

Markham Twp. Police Chief. A devout Catholic, he was an enthusiastic supporter of the new St. Mark's Parish Church from where the service was held June 20. It was largely attended.

Visitors at the O'Neill Funeral Home the previous evening numbered in the hundreds. Pallbearers were all nephews — Dr. Paul Karner, David Karner, Joe Libertini, Bob Johnson, John Manders and Bill Brown. Interment was Stouffville Cemetery.

Deep rural roots

MARKHAM — Markham Fair friends of the late Gerald Mann said their farewells at a memorial service, Thursday, held from the Dixon-Garland Funeral Home in Markham.

Mr. Mann, Fair President in 1972 and Secretary-Manager of the Fair Board from 1973 to 1986, died July 17 in Scarborough Centenary Hospital. He was 67.

In addition to wife Jennie and members of his family, the audience comprised many Fair associates including several past-presidents. A reception followed at the Fair offices, McCowan Road and 18th Avenue.

An earlier service and interment was conducted Wednesday at Baltimore, Ont., near Cobourg. Mr. Mann spent his boyhood years in that community and never lost his love for the area.

Rev. Kenneth Deere was in charge of Thursday's memorial. The eulogy was delivered by Rogers Gardham, one of Gerry's close friends and a Fair past-president in 1977.

In his address, Mr. Gardham touched on all aspects of Gerald Mann's life.

"Born into agriculture, he never strayed from these roots," he said.

Mr. Gardham told of Gerald's arrival in the Markham-Stouffville area when, in 1956, he assumed the position of manager of the 1,200 acre George Rodanz farm at Ringwood.

Mr. Rodanz, known across Canada for the quality of his cattle, prompted Gerald to become closely associated with the On-

tario Hereford Association. He served as secretary of the organization's Eastern Zone for 15 years.

Mr. Mann moved through the ranks of the Markham Fair executive and took over as president in 1972. The following year, he became the board's secretary-manager, a position he held until 1986.

Gerald's interest in fairs extended beyond the immediate area. He was President of the A & B Fairs' Association in 1981 and for several years served on the executive of the Canadian Association of Exhibitions.

Mr. Gardham told of Gerald's involvement in the purchase of the present Fair site in 1976. It was he who arranged a meeting between the then, Agriculture Deputy-Minister, Mr. Bennett; Harvey Brown and Mr. Gardham, a discussion that later culminated in successful acquisition of the property.

Gerald Mann's link with Markham Fair touched all areas of Fair life, the speaker said. The desire for equality between urban and rural attractions, gave the Fair a 'balance' it required, he explained.

"He was also sincerely concerned about education involving young people," he continued, "particularly the junior directors in agricultural activities at fairs. This concern has now seen culmination in his sponsorship of the Gordon H. Awde Memorial Fund."

"He was always proud of the accomplishments of youth and very supportive of their ideas," he said.

Mr. Gardham commented on the Fair support received by Gerald from wife Jennie and the pride he always displayed in his family.

"A bright light in service to agriculture has passed from our midst. Gerry's presence will long be remembered by all who knew or came in contact with him," Mr. Gardham concluded.

Her family came first

STOUFFVILLE — Mrs. Ida Miller was known to a host of Stouffville friends. Her kindly manner as a staff member at first Len Wilkes Clothes Shoppe; then Stedman's and later The Bakery adhered her to people of all ages.

Mrs. Miller passed away July 18 in York Manor, Newmarket. She was 70.

Born in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Mrs. Miller moved to the Stouffville area with her parents while still quite young. Later, she lived on Victoria Street before moving to Main Street East and then Parkview Village. Mr. Miller resides at Parkview Home.

Mrs. Miller enjoyed gardening and knitting. Her greatest love, however, was lavished on her grandchildren. And they loved her equally as much.

In recent months, Mrs. Miller was bothered by arthritis, an illness that eventually confined her to a wheelchair. But she seldom complained.

A member in the congregation of Stouffville Missionary Church, she regarded Rev. Douglas Gray as one of her closest friends and always looked forward to his visits.

Rev. Gray conducted the service, Wednesday, (July 20), from the O'Neill Funeral Home with interment Stouffville Cemetery.

Besides her husband, Mrs. Miller is survived by two daughters, Barbara (Mrs. Allan Machesney), Burk's Falls; Linda (Mrs. George Hodgins) Goodwood; four grandchildren, Tim and Shelley (Rolley); Michael and Mandy; one great-granddaughter Cheryl Rolley; four brothers and two sisters.

She was predeceased by an only son, Jim.

Pallbearers were — Allan Machesney, George Hodgins, Tim Machesney, Michael Hodgins and Kim Rolley.



—Jim Thomas

Town girl is pretty bride

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Leitch cut the wedding cake following their marriage Saturday in Grace Church, Newmarket. The pretty bride is the former Janet Dunkeld, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Dunkeld, William Street, Stouffville. The reception followed the ceremony at the East Gwillimbury Community Centre, Sharon. Mark and Janet will reside in Uxbridge.

TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE

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FIRST INSTALMENT
FINAL BILL

Falls Due On July 29, 1988

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To avoid penalty please make payment by due date. If receipt required, please send stamped, self-addressed envelope with payment.

Mrs. Sylvia Robb, Tax Collector

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