



Amos and Ada Reesor are celebrating their 75th wedding anniversary today in Stouffville.

Healthy life, hard work secrets to 75-year marriage

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

A marriage that has lasted three-quarters of a century started with glorious sunshine and warm weather when Amos and Ada Reesor exchanged their wedding vows on Oct. 5, 1927.

When it was time to leave for their honeymoon, the young couple stepped into their new-fangled Model T Ford and puttered off.

Now residents of Stouffville, the Reesors will be quietly celebrating their 75th anniversary at Parkview Home today with their son, George, and his wife, Anna, along with six grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Amos Reesor, now 101, still reads the newspapers daily. "His mind is as sharp as can be," said his son. The senior Reesor credits the Lord for granting him a long, healthy life. The family always had good wholesome food and no bad habits like smoking or drinking. "There was a healthy lifestyle, hard work and a good attitude," according to their son.

Ada Reesor, who is now 96, isn't as active as she used to be, but still enjoys her son's daily visits. The couple had two sons, but George's brother John died from cancer in 1998.

The senior Reesors moved off their farm in north Scarborough, at Steeles Avenue and the Pickering Town Line, in 1988 and lived at the Parkview Cluster Homes until two years ago. The farm has stayed in the Reesor family for several generations. George took over when his dad retired from farming in 1957. Now George's youngest son, Dale, farms the same land.

Amos Reesor didn't give up his driver's licence until he was 95 and continued to drive the farm wagon until two years ago so it could be filled with the freshly-picked corn from their 800 acres. This summer, the 101-year-old did some grass cutting.

Over a year ago, George started writing down his parents' reminiscences about people his parents had known as children in the early 20th century. The family struggled through the Depression years, as did many Canadians, and now George marvels at how hard his parents worked to make do with what they had. "I never felt deprived," he said. "We always had the essentials." He remembers his mom canning in the hot summer over a wood stove. Ada Reesor developed a reputation as a gifted seamstress and enjoyed quilting. She also enjoyed writing poetry. "The words just flow," her son said.

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