

Bill Payne was Santa, real-life veteran to Stouffville children

By Joan Ransberry
Stouffville Sun

OBITUARIES

The flag at the Stouffville branch of the Royal Canadian Legion was flying at half mast, marking the death of long-time member Bill Payne.

Funeral services were held Saturday at the legion for Wilmot James Short Ludlow Payne (Bill), who died peacefully on Dec. 30 with his family by his side. He was 76.

Mr. Payne and wife Liz and their two children moved from Toronto to Stouffville in the late 1960s. After retiring as a manager of a construction company in the late '70s, Mr. Payne spent much of his time volunteering in

the community. For years, Mr. Payne played Santa Claus, bringing joy to both the folks in the local nursing homes and Stouffville's toddlers.

Mr. Payne's daughter, Rena Benson of Keswick, recalls that for many years, a few days before Christmas, her father would gather names of children to telephone.

"Santa would make a person to person call to each child. He'd say a few words. Mrs. Santa, (my mother) would stand behind him and jingle bells in the background. The pair of them would make the telephone call

from Santa a very real experience for the children," said Mrs. Benson.

During the Second World War, Mr. Payne served in the Canadian as well as the British Navy, seeing action in both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

During the last few years, Mr. Payne visited elementary schools in Stouffville, making make sure the children were informed about the war years. Mr.

Payne felt it was especially important that today's children know the involvement and the sacrifices of Canadians in both world wars. "He knew what lest we forget was all about," said his daughter.

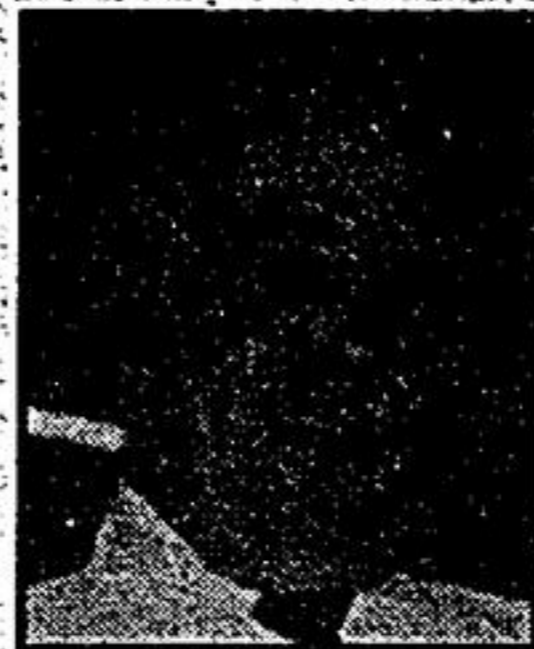
The annual luncheons held at the Legion by the ladies auxiliary always included the able and willing hands of Mr. Payne. He'd arrive at the Legion at 3 a.m. to help put the roast beef on in order to have it ready for the first table setting at noon.

Local Legion president Bill McCracken remembers Mr. Payne as a doer. "He was our sergeant at arms for many years. He was quite

active with the Stouffville District Pipe Band. Bill was the band's equipment manager and of course, he was a great help with the Ladies Auxiliary, especially with its luncheons. Bill would cut the meat and peel the potatoes. He'd work."

Mr. Payne was a member of the Lions Club, the Ballantrae Seniors and the Masonic Lodge.

Mr. Payne is survived by his wife Isabel (Liz). Besides Mrs. Benson and her husband John, Mr. Payne was the loving father of Wilmot (Bill Jr.) and his wife Chris. He's also survived by grandchildren Wilmot III (Bill Jr.), Kristen, Jeremy, Danielle and great grandchild Gage.



BILL PAYNE

Ken Aida remembered as planner who cared for his community

Funeral services for retired town employee Ken Aida will be held on Thursday at 11 a.m. from O'Neill Funeral Home in Stouffville.

Mr. Aida, 56, died at his George Street home on Christmas Eve. Born in British Columbia, Ken moved with his family to Stouffville when he was four years old. While Ken attended local schools, his parents owned and operated a dry-cleaning business in downtown Stouffville for many years.

Mr. Aida worked in the Whitchurch-Stouffville planning department for 30 years, retiring 18 months ago. He became a town employee a few years after graduat-

ing from Stouffville District Secondary School in the late 1960s.

"Ken Aida was a very valued employee," said Mayor Wynne Emmerson. "His untimely death is very unfortunate. My sympathies are extended to his family. Since Ken's mother (Elsie) died a couple of months ago, this must be very difficult, especially for his father."

Ken Aida was "a remarkable man," said fellow planner Bill

Moyer. "Everybody loved Kenny. He certainly was a good planner. He was very bright and he cared a great deal for Stouffville. It was more than a just a job. Kenny cared about his town."

Mr. Aida played hockey for the Stouffville Clippers junior team, was an avid golfer, loved a game of tennis.

Mr. Aida is survived by his father Tat, his brother Ben (Frank) and his wife Diane and sister Margaret and her partner Jim Hood as well as nieces and nephews Nick, Ryan, Kristy, Burke and Melissa.

Mr. Aida is resting at O'Neill Funeral Home on Main Street. Visitation will be on Wednesday

from 6 to 9 p.m. The funeral service will be held at O'Neill's chapel at 11 a.m.

Thursday with interment in Stouffville Cemetery following the service.



KEN AIDA

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Your Input is Needed!!

THE RECYCLING COUNCIL OF ONTARIO invites you to attend a **PUBLIC CONSULTATION** on the proposed **Blue Box Waste Diversion Plan**

Stewardship ONTARIO



WDO Public Consultation
Blue Box Waste Diversion Program Plan

On behalf of Waste Diversion Ontario I would like to invite you to participate in a series of consultation sessions on Ontario's new Blue Box Waste Diversion Program plan.

In accordance with Ontario's new Waste Diversion Act - which was granted royal assent in June 2002, and is expected to come into effect in May 2003 - an Industry Funding Organization (IFO) called Stewardship Ontario has been established to set and collect fees from trademark owners and consumer product importers whose materials (metal, paper, plastic, etc.) are collected in the Blue Box. These fees collected from industry will fund 50% of the net cost of Ontario's municipal Blue Box programs.

Stewardship Ontario is currently developing their Blue Box Waste Diversion Program plan that will determine the annual amount each consumer product company in Ontario or product importer will contribute to cover 50% of the cost of recycling their packaging or printed paper collected in the Blue Box.

As part of the development of Industry's plan, Waste Diversion Ontario and Stewardship Ontario has asked the Recycling Council of Ontario (RCO) to provide an opportunity for public input to key elements of the plan. Through public workshops, the Internet, and newspaper reply forms, RCO will be gathering in public comments to help Waste Diversion Ontario and Stewardship Ontario finalize their Blue Box Waste Diversion program plan.



Your comments and opinions are important to us to ensure Ontario's new Blue Box Waste Diversion Program achieves its goal of increasing the diversion of municipal Blue Box materials. We encourage your participation.

Sincerely,
Dennis Darby, Chair of Stewardship Ontario

PUBLIC CONSULTATION SESSIONS

DATE
January 9, 03

LOCATION
North York
North York
Civic Centre
5100 Yonge St.

TIME
3:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Open House
7:00 pm - 9:30 pm
Workshop



If you cannot attend a Workshop or Open House, please tell us what you think.

What do YOU think?

1. In general, what do you think about the Blue Box Waste Diversion Program Plan?

in favour undecided opposed

2. What leads you to say this?

3. Any other comments, questions, suggestions?

4. Community: _____ Name: (if you wish) _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

Tel: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Organization you belong to (if any) (eg., Chamber of Commerce, Municipal Government, Environmental Organization) _____

Please fax or mail this form to RCO by January 15, 2003:

Jo-Anne St. Godard RCO, Box 250 Station A Toronto, Ontario M5W 1B2

You may also comment online at www.rco.on.ca or www.stewardshipontario.ca
Workshops will also be held in Guelph, Thunder Bay, London, Toronto and Kingston. For information on workshops, workshop registration, or request background information, please contact RCO.

Fax: (416) 960-8053

Tel: (416) 657-2797 ext. 2