

**Vintage Whine**



**If the shoe hurts, wear it**

By Kate Gilderdale

Until recently, I was convinced that my days as an ageing fashionista were over.

Like a fictional librarian in a Hollywood movie, I was preparing to totter towards my dotage in polyester pantsuits and sensible shoes, abandoning with relief the demands of careful eating, regular exercise and painted toenails. Then our son announced his intention to get married and the scales fell from my eyes. It was time to go shopping.

I quickly tracked down the perfect dress, but my woeful collection of footwear was beyond redemption, so I called my stylish friend Lynn for help. The next day I was on the GO bus en route to Toronto and shoe nirvana. We went into Lynn's favourite store on St. Clair East and there they were. Anne Klein's killer heels in black and silver.

I tried them on. They felt surprisingly comfortable, once I got over the feeling that I was about to pitch nose first into the carpet. Like all deluded fashion victims, I ignored the fact that it was one thing to try shoes on in a shop and quite another to teeter about in them for an entire evening.

Never one to be swayed by practicality, I purchased them, along with a silver purse whose siren song I was unable to resist. Now it was just a matter of waiting until the wedding to stun the world with my fab ensemble.

On the big day, a hairdresser and makeup artist arrived at our hotel and proceeded to build Rome (Mr. Wallethead's description of tarding up). When my makeover was finished, I put on my dress and shoes

and walked around the room a few times, already feeling a small hint of the agony to come. It also felt very strange to be towering over people who, minutes earlier, had been the same height as me.

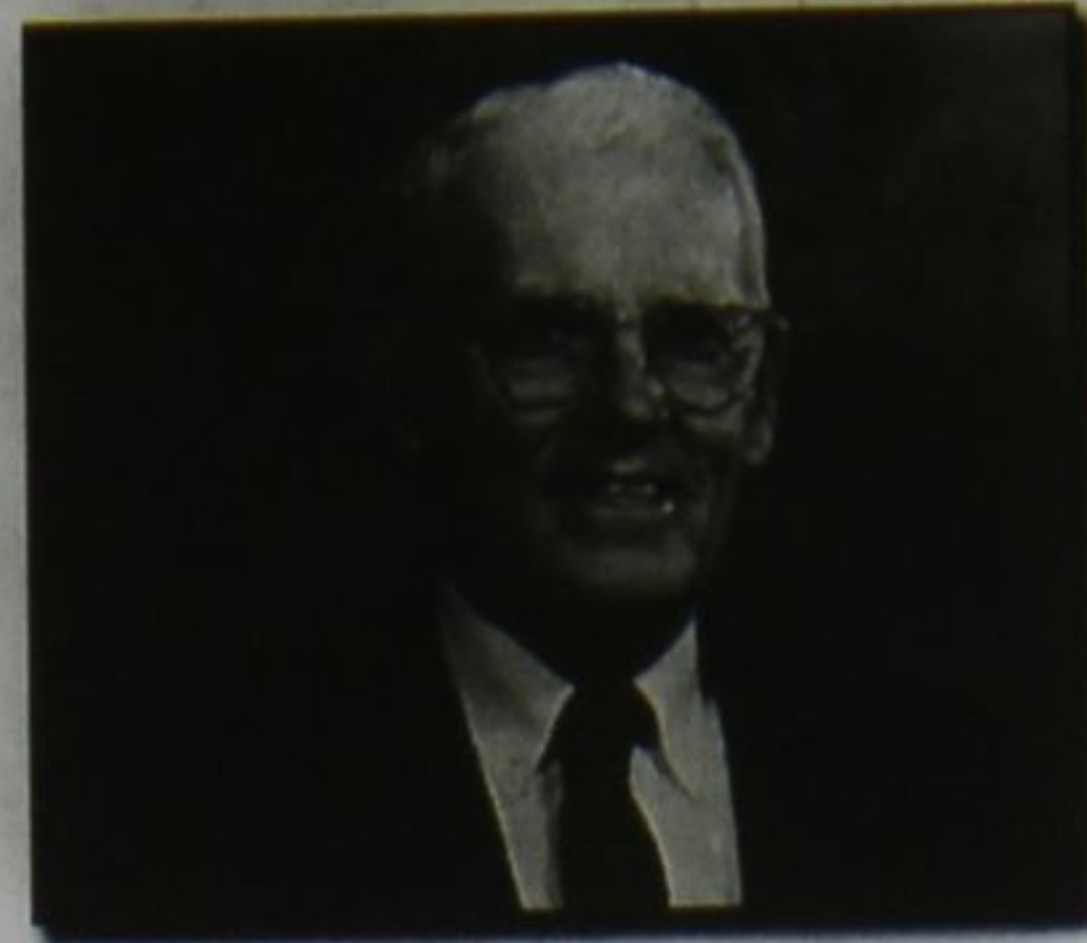
The wedding party's transformation complete, we anxiously awaited the arrival of the cab hired to get us to the church on time. Our driver had somehow got lost on Front Street, so my daughter asked me to go down and look out for him. I tottered gingerly along the corridor on my stilts and took an elevator to the lobby, which is above street level. To get outside I still had to navigate a terrifying staircase.

The last time I had bounded up those stairs to check in, I was wearing a pair of flats. Now I felt as if I were about to descend Everest without so much as a pick or rope. Clinging to the railing, I wobbled down the steps and out onto the sidewalk, where there was still no sign of the cab. When I thought I could stand the pain and anxiety no longer, a woman glanced at me as she rushed by and declared, "I love your shoes."

Like Cinders going to the ball, I felt all my worries evaporate. By the end of the night I would be crippled and hobbling, but now I understood those crazy women in *Sex and the City* and their obsession with beautiful, impractical shoes.

The cab arrived, the bridal party piled in, and a perfect night began to unfold, albeit slightly later than originally planned. My shoes nearly killed me, but they were worth the agony. And one day, when time has dulled the memory of blisters and pain, I will wear them again.

But only if I can sit down for the entire night.



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It is with great sadness that the office and staff of DundeeWealth, Stouffville acknowledge the passing of a key builder in the independent financial planning business - Mr. Ross Dixon.

Ross was an entrepreneur, philanthropist and very successful businessman. He founded Westmount Construction and built over 125 custom homes in the Kitchener-Waterloo area. At the same time he commuted to Montreal, where he was Director of Industrial and Public Relations at Uniroyal's Head Office. He often commented he could never have done it without the support of his dear wife, Doris.

He retired from Uniroyal and at age 63 started Ross Dixon and Associates where locally in 1997 Ken Prentice associated with Ross offering competitive GIC rates to Stouffville and area clients. Over the years Ross Dixon Financial Services grew to 20 franchise locations with 89 financial planners serving the GTA and S/W Ontario. The operation became known for local reliable service. Shortly after taking the company public, the operations of Ross Dixon were acquired by DundeeWealth in 2002.

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**Historic Photo**

Stouffville  
Methodist  
Church



"The present commodious and comfortable building was erected three years ago," noted the Free Press of 1895. "Here as elsewhere Methodism owes much to local preachers. The name of Geo. Flint, sr., is prominent. There is an active Epworth League." The league was formed in 1889 for the promotion of piety among the young people of the church.

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