

COMMUNITY SAYS GOODBYE TO A GREAT MAN

A devoted family man; a proud farmer; an excellent athlete; a skilled carpenter and a good neighbour – all these things were remembered as relatives and friends celebrated the life of Dawson Delbert Hare following his passing May 16.

Mr. Hare, a lifelong Stouffville resident, died at Versa Care Nursing Home, Uxbridge. He was 94.

Born on the Ninth Line farm of his parents, Robert and Hattie (Jennings) Hare, Dawson continued this agricultural operation until 1963 when he and his wife, the former Anne Tienkamp, sold the property to Ray and Mary Grant and moved to Burkholder St., Stouffville. Mrs. Hare predeceased her husband in 1984.

Dawson, or 'Daws' as he was known to a wide circle of friends, enjoyed the labours of mixed farming, raising both dairy and beef cattle. His fields of corn were always an attraction, with stocks reaching heights in excess of 15 feet.

Daws was a fine athlete, excelling at hockey, curling, lawn bowling and alley bowling. Back in the 1930s, he played defence for the Markham 'Millionaires', teaming up with the late Murray Clendenning of Stouffville and Max Reesor of

Markham. The club won five divisional championships. In their only shot at an Ontario title, they lost out to Kingston Military College. That game was played at Maple Leaf Gardens.

As an above-average lawn bowler, he was often paired with the late Eleanor Crossen in mixed doubles play, and occasionally with Rita Laushway, Don Bacon and Harry Brammer. On one occasion, he represented Ontario at a World Lawn Bowling tournament in Las Vegas.

Following retirement, Daws kept himself busy helping others, including members of his own family – a daughter Barbara, (Mrs. Jim Rennie); grandchildren Don Rennie and Joanne Gunther, all of Stouffville; great-grandchildren Andrea, Mark, Melissa and Kimberly and great-great grandchildren Shakiel, Joshua and Danial.

He often assisted well-known barn-builder Morley Symes and

helped out at the old Park Drive arena, painting lines on the ice. An ardent hunter and fisherman, he constructed a small cottage at Red Pine Lake in Haliburton where he spent many enjoyable days.

Love of hockey was always uppermost in his mind. He helped prepare and maintain an open-air rink in the backyard of Gerry and Betty Acton's property, a few doors down the street. There, he watched Keith Acton and Doug Feasby hone their skills. He helped out in a coaching role with the Stouffville Minor Hockey

Association and seldom missed an N.H.L. game on TV.

Daws was a member of Stouffville's Richardson Masonic Lodge. A masonic service in his honour was held from the O'Neill

Funeral Home, May 17, with a public service the following day. Pallbearers were Don Rennie, Mark Rennie, Saj Hassam, Jim Lehman, Bill Lehman and Gino Alberti.

Describing the deceased as 'a great man', Rev. Bob Nightingale of Stouffville United Church said he made his community better; his family stronger; his friends more comfortable; his acquaintances happier and his life richer.

"His was not a spectacular life as the world counts such things," said Rev. Nightingale, "but what really counts is not the size of your bank account; the depth of your portfolio or the trophies and accolades you accumulate, but the way in which you touch the people around you and the memories you make with them. In those memories, Daws lives on."

Interment was made at Stouffville cemetery.



What if you couldn't speak?

Local events raise funds for Aphasia Awareness

Volunteers in our region help people communicate.

According to the Stroke Foundation of Canada, about 300,000 Canadians are living with the effects of stroke. One effect is aphasia, a disorder caused by damage to the language centres of the brain that affects a person's ability to use language to express thoughts and feelings.

Volunteers support clients and staff of the York-Durham Aphasia Centre in Stouffville to communicate in groups about everyday life. We use a number of strategies: we speak, we laugh, we write key words, and we use gestures to communicate about current events, arts, music, food, and much more.

In addition to communication groups, clients participate in sessions to develop practical skills. One type of skill session is Creative Communication where we explore drawing, painting, drama, and gesturing when words are hard to find. Although the prime purpose is communication, some of our clients' watercolours can be seen on our website at www.ydac.on.ca as they have been made into note cards and are available for purchase.

Aphasia might affect a person's

ability to find the words to tell you a story, for example, that his or her daughter just had a baby, but it doesn't affect the desire to share that joyful moment. Each person who attends one of our programs is paired with a volunteer to develop a personalized Life History Communication Book. People bring photos and share life stories which are written and added to their book. Using these books is an effective tool in helping adults who have aphasia to communicate about personal events.

June is Aphasia Awareness month. On June 1, an Aphasia Walk and Rollathon will take place at the Lebovic Leisure Centre and on June 8 the centre will host an Aphasia Swimathon. To find out more about these and other events, visit our website or call us at 905-642-2053.

The York-Durham Aphasia Centre offers programs at seven sites in York and Durham regions including Maple, Richmond Hill, Markham, Newmarket, Stouffville, Whitby, and Peterborough. Our service model is group, family and community based and includes partnerships with area hospitals and long-term care/rehabilitation agencies in York and north Durham regions.

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