

March 2023

SAINT

Patrick's Day
OPEN HOUSE

March 12th

2:00-4:00PM

219 Paterson Street

Almonte, Ontario. K0A 1A0

613-963-5000

www.orchardviewmississippi.ca –



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Resident of the Month:

Written by: Nancy Dupuis

As I see John & Bonnie about in the building, I can't help but notice John almost always with his hand linked in Bonnie's;

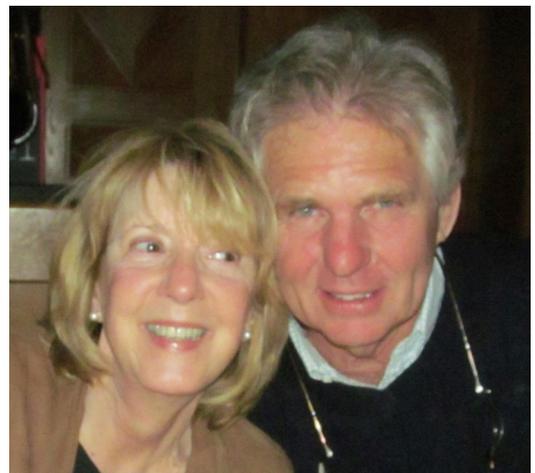
And now for their story - John was born in 1937 in Montreal and grew up in Three Rivers, Quebec, the youngest of six children with five older sisters. It was a busy family, his father working in the construction business and his mother looking after the house and children. The family theme was "many hands make light work." He did his share of chores growing up and had worked three summers on his uncle's farm by the time he was fifteen. His father built a camp north of Shawinigan, Quebec in 1937 and the family enjoyed a lot of weekends from Saturday noon until Sunday evening at the "camp". John remembers swimming, singing and of course, chores - all great memories of a lot of fun. Each spring and fall with his dad, John would learn to fish, hunt, and cook, all the while learning all the necessities of maintaining the camp. There was no plumbing, no electricity - just two pails and a lake, coal oil lamps at dark!

After finishing high school, John studied at McGill and graduated as a civil engineer in 1959. His career began in the construction industry working at first on some of the tall buildings in Montreal, as well as spending a winter in the Yukon building bridges and one in Labrador erecting steel buildings for the iron ore company at Carol Lake. This was followed by 25 years in the St. Maurice Valley working on various construction projects in the many paper mills in that region as well as in the Ottawa Valley and the Eastern Townships of Quebec.

John speaks fondly of some of the highlights of his life; his love of hockey playing briefly at McGill, playing up to age 50 and playing in a league in Montreal in 1960 and 1961 where Rocket Richard, just retired, was the referee. A keen golfer as well, John began as a caddie and as a player in his late 20s. John also recalls with great fondness his hunting days not only in Quebec but here in the Valley, the prize of the hunt being the ruffed grouse and sometimes even a moose.

Shifting to a consulting practice in the late 80's, John finally wound down about 15 years ago.

John and Bonnie met in 1983 while John was visiting a close friend and his wife at their camp in Pontiac. It was meant to be - they were married in December of 1984.



Bonnie's life had begun in 1943 in Mimico, Ontario, with a sister following a couple of years later. She completed high school there followed by studies at Ryerson University where she graduated with a degree in Special Education. Bonnie's father was a career newspaper reporter and served a couple of terms as Reeve of Mimico. Her mother was a homemaker and was very active throughout her life volunteering with various organizations, including the church. Bonnie enjoyed tennis, swimming and was adept at managing their household especially while busy teaching. She had varied interests over the years including knitting, sewing, weaving and gardening. She showed me a beautiful sweater she had knit for John many years ago and he actually still wears.

They built a camp in 1988 in Pontiac, north of Fort Coulonge with basic amenities, just like the one his father had built, heated by a cooking stove and an airtight. Several Christmas holidays were spent there in total comfort.

John fulfilled a lifelong desire to fly in 1992 obtaining his pilot's license followed with float rating and was soon flying to the camp in a two-seater float plane he built with a bit of help from others. Bonnie went up once!

They feel fortunate to have found Orchard View for their latest home this past fall. In John's own words - the staff throughout the organization are caring and compassionate, the dining room is first class. They continue to meet new friends and look forward to a new future here. They are fortunate to be in such proximity now to John's daughter Jennifer and his sister Alice with whom they communicate on a regular basis.

We are fortunate to have you both here; so many of us have already benefitted from the music played on the piano and on guitar, John! What a welcome addition to our home! When I asked John where he had learned to play, he mentioned first being introduced to music, hearing it, and singing in the car on trips to the family camp. As a youngster he briefly took piano lessons at home. John still plays by ear. From time to time, you can hear him playing on the piano in the Atrium or sometimes in the Chapel. He absolutely loves playing guitar upstairs for the folks up there as well. Although he cannot read music, John has a book with approximately 400 songs, chords written down for easy reference.

I am very fortunate indeed to spend time with residents talking about just what it is they would want you to know about them - this is a little bit of an add-on but ever so beautiful - a love story of 40 years and ongoing This poem is one of a few John has written - I leave you with his thoughts in the fall of 2013 while he was on a trip to the Yukon and one night as likely many nights, his thoughts turned to home and Bonnie.

Poem on page 6.

Keep o



On Smiling



Flower Arrangements



Men's Club Weekly Meetings



Table Top Games are always a nice cold day activity



Noodle Hockey!



Resident of the Month Con't

.Ode to Bonnie

There are strange things done
'Neath the midnight sun,
A borrowed phrase that you know.
And as I try to sleep tonight,
I can only think of you.
And I think of the many wonderful years
That we have shared together.
And of the faith you had in me,
And the dream of our life together.

In this northern land, the Yukon vast,
There's a stillness that's hard to believe.
And the mountains and valleys, apart, yet
near,
As are we in our love so dear.
And they meet every time in a valley
stream,
Running endlessly to the sea.
So, I think of you darling, and I want you to
know
You mean everything to me.

Without mountains and valleys
There'd be no streams.
Without rivers
There'd be no sea,
You're my mountain, my valley,
My river and stream.
Thank you for loving me.

I love you

Employee of the Month - Betty

Congratulations Betty on being awarded the Employee of the Month for March! Betty is one of our outstanding PSW's, a joy to work with, incredibly hard working and ultimately loves and cares for the Residents. She is well respected by her peers and always ready for the day. Thank you Betty for all your hard work and efforts, it does not go unnoticed!

Testimonial - Shirley Smaridge

Orchard View is where the friendly staff greet you and ensure everybody's safety is monitored by requiring guidelines be followed. That gives me peace of mind knowing no unwanted guests have access. From there the atrium is always festive during any holiday event! We love to see Michael and Julie's creative talents at work. The lovely dining room is so bright and I get a choice of delicious meals every day. How fantastic it is to have a choice of activities when I want to be busy. I can retreat to my clean, bright modern suite with large windows when I need to re-energize. How truly blessed I am to be living here where the staff and residents are friendly and welcoming. Thank you to everybody for making my first year of living here full and energizing!

Laugh out Loud with Orchard View

What did the horse say after it tripped?

Help! I've fallen and I can't giddy up!

Why can't you hear a pterodactyl going to the bathroom?

Because the "P" is silent

What do you call a well balanced horse?

Stable.

What do you call an angry carrot? A steamed veggie.

Where do polar bears keep their money?

In a snowbank.

JoJo's Did You Know

Did you know that peanut butter can be turned into diamonds?

Did you know that cheese is the most stolen food in the world? It is in high demand even if filled or not filled with wood pulp. And cheese theft is the most common crime.

Did you know that bananas are berries, but raspberries are not and neither are blackberries or strawberries. Cranberries are berries and they can bounce like a rubber ball.

SPRING
Fling

Orchard View
BY THE MISSISSIPPI
ALMONTE

**Monday, March 20th
7:00-8:00pm
Bring your Dancing Shoes!**

**Entertainment by
"The Classics"**

Kick off to the new season the best way possible with Live Music and Dancing

RSVP by calling 613-963-5000
Donations will be collected and donated to Home Hospice



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BY THE MISSISSIPPI
ALMONTE

SAINT
Patrick's Day
OPEN HOUSE

March 12th

2:00-4:00PM

TOURS
AVAILABLE

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
WITH ROBIN AVERILL

RSVP WITH RECEPTION
(613) - 963 - 5000
ovmreception@ovlc.com

Almonte, ON
219 Paterson Street
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