



THE STORY OF BILL

William John Robert Moore was born to Henry (Harry) Moore and Ethel (nee Smith) on May 17th, 1908. His first home was on Ford St, in Toronto which seemed a very fitting start for a man who spent most of his adult life working for The Ford Motor Company, in Windsor and Brampton, Ontario. "Bill" had a very full life. After a brief time in Toronto, he celebrated his 6th birthday aboard ship, on his way to England. Once there, he lived with his Mom and sister, Nell, in the front room of his Uncle Jack's flat. Bill spent many happy days and nights at 2a Cobden Court, in the small market town of Faversham. Despite the events of World War 1 (which included air raids from the German Luftwaffe) he fondly recalled his favourite candy shop, a local brewery yard where he played with his friends and neighbours who were very kind to him as a boy.

After Faversham, Bill lived in London. He stayed at The Anglican Church School where he learned to read and write and to appreciate the value of hard work. The church was only able to shelter him until his early teens, so he set out to make a living in the streets of London when most of us are just contemplating our options in high school. His first job was to assist a shoemaker. This gave him some experience with handling leather (which, many years later he put to use fashioning ladies handbags, for extra cash.) Next, he invested in his own business. He went to the London docks every morning, to load up with fresh fish, and sell his "catch of the day" to midtown housewives and cooks, from the boot of his car.

Meanwhile, Bill sometimes visited his Mom and her new family, including his half-brother Ted. To this day, Ted loves to tell the story of how Bill used to show up on his motorbike and dazzle him with his biker gear.

It wasn't very long before Bill decided to spend his savings on a passage back to North America. Once here, he looked up his Dad (who had remarried Jeannette and Owen's mother; Annie) and his sister Nell (who was married to George, in Pennsylvania).

The lightening bolt hit hard when Bill met Beatrice Pearl Mackenzie or his beloved "Beattie." After a courtship which included Bill giving up his motorcycle, they married in 1941. These two wasted no time. "Before they figured out what was causing it", they'd had seven children: David, Jan, Ken, Linda, Tom, Alan and Randy. Their family home was on St. Paul's Street, in Riverside. Bea taught school and Bill worked at Ford's, where he was one of the first employees to join the C.A.W. He could tell you some mean tales about how hard it was to bring in that union and most of them weren't pretty.

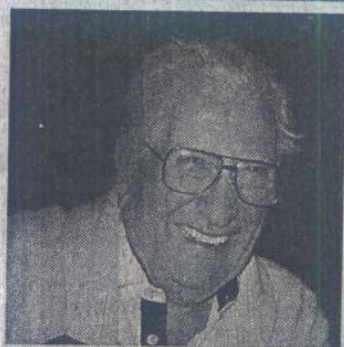
There were other stories too. Legendary euchre tournaments and Saturday night beers at "Abars", Dad's (only he could use the motor) fishing boat at the cottage, "Tuffy"; the darn dog that would only listen to Bill, and drew his last straw the day he wouldn't let the postman or the breadman off the front porch, summer treks to Tobermory, Manitoba and Ottawa, and his famous collection of tools, gadgets and hardware with which he could repair, restore or rebuild just about anything you could think of!

Bill's legacy grew. David married Nat and they "introduced" James and Lisa. Jan married Gary and they "developed" Jennifer, Robert and Rebecca. Ken followed in Bill's footsteps, staying single till his thirties when he (finally) married Chris and had a son, Ian. Linda and her husband Colin "delivered" Christopher and Brian. Tom and his wife Judy added to the family tree with Bryan, Lindsay, Craig and Kayla. Alan and his wife Marie "presented" Alexe, while Randy and his wife Elaine expanded the Moore clan even further with Leigh Anne and Allison.

Bill was retired for 34 years. He was the longest living Ford Canada retiree before he died. And what a retirement he had! There were trips across Europe, trips across Canada, trips to Florida, Alaska, England and New Mexico. Bill loved to travel, loved to meet new people and share new places with his favourite traveling companion; Bea. They had a lot of fun together and rarely were seen to be anywhere else but at each other's side.

So, the story of Bill is really a very happy one. He lived a long and healthy life, enjoyed many blessings, including the love of good friends and family. It's an impressive story, by any standards. A regular guy who managed to overcome some pretty overwhelming odds, took pride in his work, paid his own way and provided for his family, stood faithfully by his wife for more than 60 years and never lost his sense of humour....and that's a story all by itself!

So here's to you, Bill. Dad. Grandpa. Dear friend. Dear husband. We miss you and hope you're latest trip is the best one of all.



MOORE, William John Robert

Peacefully passed away at the Leamington District Hospital on Sat. March 19, 2005 in his 97th. Year. Beloved husband of Beatrice (nee McKenzie). He was a loving father to David and his wife Nat, Jan and her husband Gary, Ken and his wife Chris, Linda and her husband Colin, Tom and his wife Judy, Alan and his wife Marie, Randy and his wife Elaine. Cherished grandfather of 15 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. Loving brother of Jeannette Cooper (Windsor) and Edward Moore (England). Predeceased by sister Nell and brother Owen. Bill was an active member of the C.A.W. Union at Ford's Windsor and Bramalea plants for 30 years and happily retired for 34 years. Cremation has already taken place. A celebration of his good life will be held on April 17th. 2005 at Beatrice's residence Lakeview Towers, 101-105 Robson Rd., Leamington between the hours of 11am and 3 pm. In lieu of flowers, a donation to the charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.

Presented to

Brother W. Moore

in appreciation for
his service as

COMM. MEMBER

of

Local 200, U.A.W.-C.I.O.

Given this 1st day of November, 1948, on behalf
of the Executive Board through the co-operation
of the author and the Educational Committee of
Local 200, U.A.W.-C.I.O.

Roy England

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W. J. ...

W. ...

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