

Evergreen Avenue 2023 Community Builders

Jack Traynor. Jack was raised in the Perth area but his working life brought him to Smiths Falls where he was employed with Pepsi for many years and was a big part of public relations of the local bottler. Jack was a hockey fan and served as a director of minor hockey locally for years. Jack was a gregarious individual who made friends with everyone. He worked in the car sales business for many years and his strong connection to the community made him a popular stop for the car buyers who knew him. Jack was a former Trustee with the Catholic School Board of Eastern Ontario and then served as a Town Councillor for the Town of Smiths Falls. He and his wife Evelyn raised their family in Smiths Falls. Jack was also an active member of the Smiths Falls Rotary Club bringing his enthusiasm and energy to the table. Jack exemplified "Service Above Self".

Clayton Holbrook. Clayton has strong roots in the community, having being raised on a farm and having long career with Canadian Pacific Express & Transport. At the time of his passing, Clayton was the longest serving Smiths Falls Rotarian with over 60 years of service to the community. He was always one of the doers at the Club who was there to lend a hand where and when possible. His smile was infectious and he had countless friends and acquaintances through his life and Rotarian Service. Clayton was a regular worker at the Rotary fairs and functions as well as a frequent volunteer at Rotary Bingo. Clayton exemplified "Service Above Self".

Hal Botham. Hal Botham was a well-known broadcaster for more than 40 years. Most of his time as a broadcaster was here in Smiths Falls at CJET 630AM and CFMO 101.1 FM.

Hal lived his life to the fullest. He was either at an event helping out or at a meeting to help plan an event.

Hal was "The Morning Mayor." A name our former Town Mayor Tom Ashwell called him. Hal did the morning show and many people welcomed him in to their homes to find out the latest news, weather, sports and everything local in Smiths Falls and area.

Hal loved to tell a joke. He enjoyed talking about the good people in our area and what they were up to. Quite often he would invite people in to the studio with him to tell their story or sing their song.

Hal enjoyed flight. He built model airplanes and kites. He shared his knowledge and interest in flight by speaking at schools and teaching the "theory of flight" to our local air cadets. When he had time and the weather was good, he would be out flying one of his planes or kites.

Hal passed away suddenly on April 1, 1997, the night before he turned 61 years old.

Hal loved to tell the stories of the good people in our area. He was one of the good ones too and we continue to remember him and tell his story.

John Halpin. First and foremost, on behalf of our family we want to thank the Royal Canadian Legion and Evergreen Avenue Committee for the stone/plaque and the dedication to our father John Halpin.

Dad was born, raised and stayed in Smiths Falls Sept. 22, 1926 and left us Sept. 29, 2022. We were lucky to have him 96 years.

He never felt worthy of the veteran status compared to so many who fought, who lost lives and dedicate their life to the service.

He joined the Canadian Army April 1945, trained for six months and was on stand by for transfer to Europe when the war ended (he said the Germans heard he was coming!!!!) He was discharged in October 1945.

Beside his love of family/friends, sports was an integral part of his life. He coached, refereed, played and taught many and rarely missed any sports on television.

He was a fixture in the Memorial Community Centre and probably his favourite part in later years was Johnny's Room, keeping the "High Voltage" closet stocked and story telling with his many pals. Jack Traynor once announced in the room before the priests and parishioners faced off against the flying fathers..."God bless and beer will be \$2 after the game".

Never any shortage of laughs and fun when in the company of John Halpin and friends. Again, thank you on behalf of the Halpin Family.