

Births and Deaths

Cards of Thanks, In Memoriams, Marriage Notices, Engagements, Announcements

BORN

ROY - Geremie-Michelle, April and Sarah, are happy to announce the birth of their sister, Kathleen Elizabeth, 9 lbs. 8 oz. at the Barrie Memorial on February 26. Mom and dad are Cheryl and Claude. She's the 9th grandchild for Hazel and Ed Leamon.

BIRTHDAY

CONGRATULATIONS and best wishes to John Watt. Have a happy and healthy 103rd birthday from all of us at the Rankin Home.

DIED

HOLMES, Mary R. (Mamie) - at her residence, Huntingdon, Que. on March 10th, 1986 in her 96th year. Wife of the late Lawrence Holmes. Dear mother of Geraldine of Calgary, Alberta, Stewart (Buster) of Huntingdon, Ray and his wife Lila of Hemmingford and the late John. Grandmother of Tim, John, his wife Carol (of Barbados) Gerry and Joey and one great grandchild Jordan. Funeral service was from the Kelly Funeral Home to St. Joseph's Church on Wednesday, March 12th at 2 p.m. Interment St. Joseph's Cemetery.

FRASER, Mabel - at the Huntingdon County Hospital on March 10th, 1986 Mabel McElwain age 93 years, wife of the late Arthur Fraser. Dear mother of Ruth (Mrs. Roger Baikle) also survived by 5 grandchildren. Funeral service was from the Kelly Funeral Home, Huntingdon on March 12th at 4 p.m. Interment Zion Church Cemetery in the spring.

NUSSEY, Harold - After a lengthy illness at his home in Spencer, Mass., on Monday, March 10, 1986, aged seventy-five years. Beloved husband of Pauline Robitaille, dear father of Joyce (Cormey), father-in-law of Wendel, grandfather of Patty and Doug. Loving brother of Alvin, Clifford, Kelly and sisters, Myrtle, Florence, Muriel, Beatrice, Thelma, Phyllis and Edvth. Predeceased by brothers, Leslie, William and Johnnie. Visitation and funeral service was held in Spencer Mass. and burial at Worcester County Memorial Park on Wednesday, March 12.

SPROULE, Arthur Lloyd - at the Montreal General Hospital on March 14, 1986. Lloyd Sproule of Ormstown. Dearly beloved husband of Ruby MacDougall, dearest father of Jean (Roland Léger), James (Marian Gebbie), Donald and Janet (Gary Russell). Loving grandfather of Pamela and Michael Léger, Sarah Russell and Emily Sproule. Dear brother of Edith (Mrs. R. English), Douglas and Clifford and predeceased by brothers, Wallace, Thomas and Austin. Funeral service was held on Monday, March 17 at St. Paul's United Church and was conducted by Reverend Oliver Carmichael. Interment in the spring. Pallbearers were Harley Sproule, Wayne Sproule, Edward Firlotte, Aubrey MacDougall, Erskine McClintock and Jack Rodgers. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Barrie Memorial Hospital fund raising campaign, room 1739, 1650 Cedar Ave., Montreal, H3G 1A4, would be greatly appreciated. Arrangements made by McGerrigle Funeral Home Inc., Ormstown.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our sincere thanks to Dr. Lefebvre, relatives, friends and neighbors, on the recent death of our mother, Mrs. Joseph Forget (Sr.), also for donations, flowers, mass cards. All was deeply appreciated. Please consider these thanks as personal. Elizabeth Patenaude, Alice and Arthur Lumsden

We wish to express our sincere thanks to Dr. Feder and the maternity nurses of the 2nd floor of the Barrie Memorial Hospital for the excellent care we received during our stay. Mary and Dane Ellerton

I wish to convey my sincere thanks to the staff of the Hemmingford Ambulance for the quick response for help also to doctors and nurses of the 3rd floor of the Barrie Memorial Hospital for the excellent care I received and thank you to my family, friends and neighbors for visits, cards, gifts, flowers, and every act of kindness. May the Good Lord bless everyone of you sincerely. Willard and Irene McAllister

We would like to thank our neighbors and friends for their acts of kindness and flowers, also those who sent donations to the Barrie Memorial Hospital Ladies Auxiliary for the late James Kenneth McNeil during our recent bereavement. Thanks. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Baird and family

Alan Randal remembered as Gleaner editor and blacksmith

by Phil Norton

Newspaper editor, handyman, apprentice blacksmith - these were the various occupations of former Rockburn resident Alan Randal who died last Florida at the age of 73.

He gained national respect as a Canadian Press war correspondent and Montreal Gazette editor, yet locally he is remembered for his enthusiasm and appreciation for country living.

Following his retirement from nearly two decades as Gazette news editor and managing editor, he took the post of Gleaner editor from 1973 to 1979.

It was not a job he took lightly and Judy Taylor of Ormstown, who worked with him during those years, recalls him frequently stating, "People who work on big papers tend to look down on small, community newspapers. But they don't realize that putting together a good community newspaper involves more work and thought than most jobs on the big dailies."



Taylor recalls that Randal was well known, well liked and very professional in his journalism. "He contributed a lot to the Gleaner," she says. "He was a gift to this area."

Cyril Alary, who has been editor of The Gleaner's French section, since 1972, occasionally accompanied Alan Randal on assignments. Recalls Alary, "One case he was very sensitive about was when five CVR students were killed by a drunk driver." Judy Taylor notes that his human touch was evident in his journalism.

Roger Daoust, who became Gleaner owner during Randal's term, also recalls him as a thoughtful man. "He was a great man to talk to - informed, sensitive, a very human person."

Blacksmith apprentice But to know Randal the journalist was to know only half the man. He is remembered in the Chateauguay Valley equally as a blacksmith and popular speaker at Women's Institutes and community events. At an age when most people resign to a quiet retirement, he was interested in being involved and learning new things.

He prided himself in learning the traditional technique of blacksmithing under the guidance of Bentley Douglas of Rockburn who was, at the time, in his 70's. The two would drive all over the countryside to farms and horse centres performing their avocation.

Alan Randal was also known to read over 60 novels a year in addition to gardening and playing his bagpipes.

In its obituary of March 14, the Montreal Gazette reviews his history in journalism pointing out that his forte "was late-breaking stories that needed a great deal of quick organization, such as an election or a jail riot." A native of Manitoba, Randal first worked as a reporter and teletype operator in Winnipeg in 1931. Over the next decade he worked out of Canadian Press bureaus in Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and New York City. In 1942 he became London's news editor and a war correspondent in 1944.

His war coverage included the 3rd Division, 1st Canadian Army as it fought through France, Belgium and the Netherlands.

Randal became bureau chief for CP in Montreal following the war until he joined the Gazette in 1952 and finally the Gleaner in the fall of 1973.

He is survived by his wife Frederica, daughter Linda, and three grandchildren.

Alan Randal's successor knew editor's enthusiasm

When I heard that former Gleaner editor Alan Randal had died recently in Florida at the age of 73, I took some time to think about this man, whom I hadn't seen or heard from for several years, the man who taught me (and many others) everything we know about newspapering, and a lot about living too.

I worked with Alan on a daily basis at The Gleaner for over six years, (1973-79), as he topped off a long and distinguished career in journalism as editor of a small country newspaper, a job which he often told me he found more creative and challenging than almost any other.

Alan loved living in the Chateauguay Valley. Though he was originally from Manitoba, something about his lifestyle here kept him in touch with his roots.

A small man, most often dressed in a red checked bush jacket, cowboy boots, and a black hat set at a rakish angle, Alan would arrive at The Gleaner office on many a winter morning, clutching his thermos of coffee, invigorated by the struggle to get his little pick-up truck "off the hill" on his Rockburn property, through the snowdrifts and over the icy roads to Huntingdon.

At his desk, he quickly became the real old-fashioned newspaperman, clattering away on the ancient typewriter he preferred; listening patiently to telephoned news items which he rarely interrupted with a quiet "yeah, yeah", while taking notes in a surprisingly neat, almost calligraphic handwriting.

Alan knew all about newspapers and an awful lot about people. He taught me, a rank beginner at the trade, that newspapers exist to serve their readers, not to enlarge the ego of their writers. He taught me to judge stories on their relative importance to our readers, and to put a lot of what he called "think time" into creating each week's edition as a labor of love, in which form and content combine to offer the reader a package

reflecting, as accurately as possible, the way of life of the real people who live here.

As a teacher, he shared unstintingly the knowledge gained during 40 years in the business. All he asked in return was enthusiasm for the job, for people, and for the paper as a product to be proud of.

And, in his late 50s and early 60s, Alan was proud of the fact that he himself was still learning about all kinds of things, especially blacksmithing, with the late Bentley Douglas of Rockburn; and carpentering around his mini-farm on Rte 202 across from Welburn's Store.

In his previous careers, as a teletype operator, a World War II correspondent, and through his years at Canadian Press and The Montreal Gazette, Alan had weathered all kinds of rough times, and emerged with a firm commitment to get the most out of life. The last I heard, he and his wife Freddie were spending their summers in Ottawa and their winters in Florida, where the fishing was good, and there was still lots of puttering around to do.

Many people now prominent in Canadian journalism learned from Alan at some point in their careers. I have talked with several myself, and they all remember him fondly and with respect, as a professional and as a person. But I know it would be just as important to him to know how many of us ordinary people here in the Valley remember him too, even though he left the area over six years ago. His legacy is indeed a living one, and he started to share it with us long before he died.

And I know for sure that whatever Alan was doing in his last years, he was enjoying it to the utmost, and passing his enthusiasm on to those he met along the way.

Judy Taylor
Ormstown
(Gleaner editor 1979-83)

New priest

On Friday, April 11, Alain Ambeault will be ordained a priest by Msgr. Robert Lebel, Bishop of the Diocese of Valleyfield.

The ceremony will take place in the church of the Parish of St. Stanislas de Kostka.

Alain Ambeault was born in Lachute, where he attended primary and secondary school. He later attended College Marie-Victorin and the Université de Montréal.

In August 1979, he joined the Congregation of the

Clerics Saint-Viateur and took a particular interest in parish ministry.

During his pastoral training, he served in the following parishes: Saint-Julien de Lachute, Saint-Malachie d'Ormstown, St. Joseph in Huntingdon. On August 1985, he was named Pastor of St. Stanislas de Kostka. He was ordained a Deacon on August 24, 1985, in the church of St. Joseph's Parish, Huntingdon. Rev. Ambeault son of Raymond and Rhéaume Ambeault is the youngest



Alain Ambeault

of a family of five children. One of his brothers, Simon, was ordained a priest last year in the Congregation of the "Prêtres du Sacré-Coeur".

Harold Nussey of Brysonville, 1910-86

The family, relatives and friends of the late Harold Nussey were grieved to hear of his death on March 10, 1986 at Spencer, Mass.

Born on Dec. 17, 1910 he was the son of the late Harry and Janet Nussey and lived and worked in the local community around Brysonville and Ormstown.

At an early age, he went to Spencer, Mass. where he worked for Alta Crest Farms. Later, he was

employed by the Spencer Sprinkler Systems and retired in 1980.

A devoted husband, and father, he leaves to mourn his loss, his wife, the former Pauline Robitaille, and a daughter Joyce (Cormey), son-in-law Wendel, and grandchildren Patty and Doug.

Also surviving are seven sisters and three brothers. Myrtle (McGerrigle) of Huntingdon, Florence (Little), Bea (Gunnell) of

Ottawa, Phyllis, Thelma, Muriel (Raney) of Montreal, Edyth (McAllister) of Riverfield, Kelly of Halifax, N.S., Clifford of Brockville and Alvin of Worcester, Mass.

He is predeceased by brothers Leslie, William and Johnnie.

Visitation and funeral were held in Spencer, Mass. and burial took place at Worcester County Memorial Park on Wednesday, March 12, 1986.