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Happy 25th

# WELCOME TO FALL '23 LET'S MEET FOR LUNCH

Where: Wagg's Casual Fine Dining

420 N. Christina St, Sarnia

When: Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** Arrive at 11:30 am – Lunch at 12:00 noon

Choose your own fare from their great menu selections

**RSVP:** By October 25<sup>th</sup> – Alma 336-9108 or Mel 344-2931

Please let us know if you require a ride

## This is the fifth in a series devoted to

## - THOSE WHO SERVED - and their stories

The following is an account of Arthur Haggart's military service.

Art's military training in all aspects of fire prevention gave him the knowledge to start up and manage the Lambton College Industrial Fire School until he retired.



I was born in Ottawa in 1928 and married Marion in Toronto in 1951. We have two boys Wayne and Brian. We have four wonderful grandchildren.

Just after turning 18, I joined the RCAF in 1946 as a firefighter. In October '46 I was sent for a basic fire fighting course which lasted 8 weeks. The training priority was on aircraft crash rescue, but we were also trained in the basics of structure fires. This crash aspect of the trade makes the military firefighter somewhat different from the regular municipal one. This training taught us a lot about flammable liquids, chemicals, explosive materials, ammunitions, etc.

After completing this training I was shipped off to Western Air Command in Vancouver. Thus started a career that would span 29 years. During that time I went up through 5 Jr. ranks until 1960 when I became a Commissioned Officer. I retired with the rank of Major in 1975.

Training really never stopped; there were many more courses and a lot of on-the-job training. Because we were the forces' insurance, fire prevention was very important to us and a lot of the job training was on this. During my career I was involved in every aspect of the trade. I was an ordinary firefighter, crew chief, deputy chief, fire chief, training instructor, C.O. of the Forces Fire School, Command Fire Marshals. I was also involved in fire investigations and was authorized to test and accept new Fire Suppression systems (e.g. Sprinklers). Over all it was a most interesting career. The most interesting, enjoyable, and most demanding position I had was Fire Chief of 4 wing in Germany for 3 years during the cold war where I was responsible for a crew of 60. We had lots of airfield activities and many pressure-filled times. As in Canada, we had a mutual aid system with local fire departments and that gave us the opportunity to meet many of the local German firefighters. We enjoyed their company and fellowship and we had occasions when we did assist them.

It was not all work as there were many good times too. There were social affairs and many sporting events to attend or get involved with. We golfed, curled, and taught curling. I was involved with ball umpiring and was manager of the hockey team in Europe for a year. There were many opportunities to visit different countries and to see a lot of Canada. I have been in all Provinces and the two territories (at that time) with one exception - I never made it to PEI. No matter where we lived we always enjoyed the people and places.

I guess you can say we are a military family. My Dad and three brothers were in WW2. All came back. Our oldest son Wayne graduated from Royal Military College in 1978. I was very proud when I swore him into the forces. He just recently retired as a Lt. Colonel and is now working as a civil servant for the DND. He swore his daughter Melissa into the forces and she also graduated from RMC and is now a Lieutenant in the Canadian Navy.

I'll never regret the military service; it was a lot of work but also a lot of fun. I'll also never regret retiring and taking the job at Lambton College. My military training and experience was a huge benefit to me in this second career. I enjoyed my time at the Industrial Fire School.

Art Haggart

# In Memory of Norma West Linder



Norma was one of the college pioneers and truly OUR "poet laureate". She was an internationally published poet and novelist. Over the years she taught many English and Literary courses at Lambton. She was well liked by all her co workers. From time to time Norma would be a guest columnist in The Sarnia Journal. Her easy manner of story telling made the reader feel personally involved in the story.

With her husband James Dheal, a poet & novelist himself, they enjoyed coming to many retiree functions over the years.





Novelist, poet, children's author, short story writer, playwright and biographer Norma West Linder died on August 26, 2023 at Bluewater Health in Sarnia.

Norma was born in Toronto in 1928. She grew up on Manitoulin Island and considered the Island to be her spiritual home. She died nine days before her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday.

She is the author of 8 novels, 16 poetry collections, a volume of selected short fiction, two children's books, a biography of Pauline McGibbon, a memoir of growing up on Manitoulin Island and a stage play. She is a major figure in Canadian Literature. In addition to her writing Norma taught English at Lambton College for twenty-four years.

Norma was loved by all who knew her, and disliked by none. She will be mourned by many. She was a wonderful wife and mother. In sorrow,

James

In accordance with my wife's wishes, the Unitarian memorial service and the internment of her remains at Lakeview Cemetery will be private. At a later date there will be a Celebration of Life.

### Did You Know ....

When a person dies hearing is the last sense to go. The first sense lost is sight.

Your tongue is the only muscle in your body that is attached at only one end.

<u>The tooth</u> is he only part of the human body that cannot heal itself.

<u>Drinking water</u> before you eat may help digestion and curb your appettite.

<u>Drinking water after eating</u> reduces the acid in your mouth by 61%.

<u>If you stop getting thirsty</u> you need to drink more water. When a human body is dehydrated, its thirst mechanism shuts off.

<u>Glass</u> takes one million years to decompose, which means it never wears out and can be recycled an infinite amount of times.

<u>Gold</u> is the only metal that doesn't rust, even if it's buried in the ground for thousands of years.

.... Now You Know

### **Your Executive Committee** –

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