

Eulogies

Meryl Eriksson

By Jeannette Doud

Our dear friend, Meryl Eriksson, joined her beloved husband, Vern, November 9, 2005. The Erikssons spent many happy years on the Island and were married more than 50 years ago at Stonecliffe.

A celebration of her life graduation to heaven was held at Shepherd of Valley Lutheran Church in Afton, Minnesota, Saturday, November 12. It was a joyous event.

For many, many years, Meryl and Vern were with Moral Re-Armanent Group on the Island, where they made a host of friends who mourn their passing. In later years, they made their home in Fort Myers Beach, Florida, where they worked closely with Ellie and James D. Newton in real estate.

In recent years, they purchased a condominium on Mackinac. They thoroughly enjoyed biking around the Island every day. They were very active in Mackinac Associates functions.

Following the death of Vern, Meryl made her home in Minnesota, near her daughter, Dr. Carol Entwistle, and son, David Eriksson. The families loved having their mother close by for the past five months. Meryl had a radiant smile and a pleasing personality, which enabled her to make many new friends in her assisted living complex.

The very last time we were in the company of Dr. Carol and Meryl was in August, when Melly Hagenbaugh and Margaret and Jeannette Doud

joined them for lunch at the Carriage House. We had a great time reminiscing about the past years on Mackinac. As we all began to leave, we walked up French Lane, where Meryl stopped to admire Dwight LaPine's beautiful garden. At the top of the hill, we bid farewell.

When the lilacs bloom on Mackinac, Meryl will be brought back to the Island, where she will lie next to her beloved husband, Vern, in the Island Cemetery.

Deepest sympathy to the family from Island friends.

Friends may write to: Carol Entwistle, 14371 Valley Creek Trail, Afton, MN 55001 and Dave Eriksson, 15211 113th St. N., Stillwater Township, MN 55082.

Pat Davey

By Jeannette Doud

We shall miss Pat Davey's warm smile, hearty handshake, and gracious personality. Sadly, we must report to our readers that Pat passed away in Bradenton, Florida, October 5, 2005 following a short illness.

Pat loved Mackinac with all his heart and spent many happy summers here. We would always meet each Sunday morning at the 9 a.m. mass at Ste. Anne's and would exchange greetings. He was a dear and wonderful friend whom will be sadly missed. He enjoyed many walks on his favorite Island and riding his bicycle around the shore with his friends.

Pat was born December 15, 1924 in Lansing, the youngest of seven children in a typical large, happy family. Pat's father was a surgeon and his mother played the organ and sang Sunday mass at Ste. Anne's for 20 years.

Pat spent summers at the family's Ballynahinch Cottage (last cottage east of Mission Church). In 1942, after he graduated from high school, he served in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific until the end of the war. He spent the next four summers on the Island while he was a student at Michigan State University. After graduation, he moved to Florida to start a business, where he lived until his death.

Pat has been returning to Mackinac for the past 25 years for two months each summer,

happily settled in Melly Hagenbaugh's Lesley Court condominium, where he was close to the water.

We all know Pat's great admiration for Mackinac. He loved the wooded area, where he could see and enjoy all the wildflowers when he walked the trails. He knew every freighter, loved the stars, clear blue skies, and cool summer weather. Most of all, he loved coming back home.

Pat is survived by his four children, Kevin, Timothy, and Janet of Florida and Brian of Oregon. He is also survived by eight grandchildren.

Deepest sympathy to the family from Island friends. We shall miss Pat, a favorite and much loved friend for many years.

Pat's close friends on Mackinac were Steve Doud, Bill Squires, and my brother, Pat Chambers, all now in heaven. What a reunion there will be. Just bet they will be talking Mackinac.

Pat's nephew, Joe Davey, and wife, Mary, of Bloomfield Hills are owners of the East Bluff cottage formerly owned by the Williams family of Chicago, longtime summer cottagers.

It gave Pat a great deal of pleasure to know that the Davey family was back to spend summers on Mackinac, their beloved Island.

We welcome Joe and Mary and shall visit them next summer.

Barbara Chambers

By Jeannette Doud

I would like to remember Barbara Chambers as a little girl, from a large family, growing up on Mackinac, where she romped and played with her brothers and sisters, and going to school at the Thomas W. Ferry with many cousins and friends. One of her favorite sports was figure skating.

Barbara's comfortable home on Market Street was the "stopping off" place for family and friends to visit. She enjoyed company, be it for a good cribbage game or other card game. She was a homemaker, and the welcome mat was always out. She had no need to look for happiness, for here at home the treas-

ures were.

Barbara was the mother of 12 children, who loved her dearly and gathered at her bedside at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie, along with her kind and devoted husband of 31 years, James P. Chambers, whom she married in 1974.

Barbara died Friday, November 11, following a lingering illness. She was born January 11, 1941 to Joseph and Ruby (Perault) Andress.

Hoping is to have some worthwhile task to do, however small, and the courage with which to meet life's challenges. It is to cherish all things, especially the gift of laughter, and see truth

and beauty in all things.

Survivors include her husband, James, and her children, Lyndon, Carol, Matthew, Michael, and Chad Ruddle, Leslie Aikens, and James, Bill, John, and Heather Chambers. She was preceded in death by twin daughters, Ruby and Emma Jean, and her brother, Joseph. Barbara is also survived by three brothers, Donald, Pat, and Leslie, and one sister, Mary.

A private graveside service was held Tuesday, November 15, at Ste. Anne's Cemetery with Father Rey Garcia officiating.

Deepest sympathy to the family from Island friends.

Student Opinions Given to Island Planners

Youth delivered their opinions on Mackinac Island's future in the form of a survey reviewed by the Master Plan Committee Tuesday, October 18. The 34 students in grades eight through 12 were asked to complete a four-question survey and 28 of them did so, providing committee members with additional insight that will help to guide them as they continue the process of revising the Island's Master Plan.

The Master Plan Committee began meeting in June and already has held two public meetings with the goal of adopting a final version of the Master Plan by next spring.

State law requires a master plan be updated every five years.

Here is how the students responded to the survey, with the number of students responding after each option.

Question 1. How can we best protect the characteristics that make the Island a desirable tourism destination?

Want the Island's beauty, history, culture, and green space preserved. (9 students)

Downtown areas need to be better managed. (5)

Would like to see downtown

amenities expanded and more entertainment for younger people. (5)

Want building on the Island stopped completely. (4)

Keep everything the same as it is now. (1)

Question 2. How can we best maintain / improve the Island's appeal as a year-around community?

Decrease the cost of living for year-around residents. (7)

More entertainment for younger people to keep them out of trouble. (4)

Increase winter tourism. (3)

Better quality year-around employee housing. (2)

More winter jobs. (1)

Screen employees so there are better employees. (1)

No more building at all. (1)

Keep Island as it is. (1)

Question 3. How can we best use the limited amount of land still available for development?

Utilize the land for year-around residents. (9)

Keep land undeveloped. (6)

Increase commercial services for both year-around and seasonal residents. (4)

Use land for employee housing. (3)

Turn houses into bed and breakfast businesses, taking care of two problems at once. (1)

Question 4. What is your idea of the worst possible thing that could happen in terms of land use and development? What is the best possible thing?

Worst

Clearing of State Park property and the undisturbed land. (8)

More hotels. (5)

More mansions or wealthier people owning more land. (2)

Too many buildings (Island is built to its maximum capacity). (1)

Cars and franchises (like fast food chains) allowed. (1)

The Island becomes too much like an amusement park. (1)

Increased crime rate. (1)

More employee housing. (1)

Increased number of businesses. (1)

Best

Better and more housing. (5)

Increased business on Island. (4)

Increasing or maintaining green spaces (3)

Increase entertainment for youth. (2)

Increase tourism and return tourism. (2)

Lower prices. (2)

Better employee housing. (1)

Better employment for residents. (1)

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