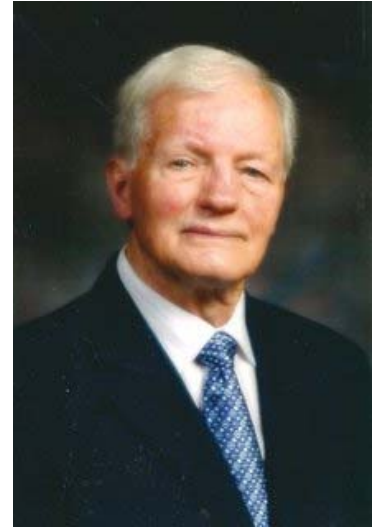


Position recently held:

Director of Education

Among my myriad recollections and experiences at TH&VS, several stand out.

Army Cadets: I was among Grade 9 boys who were “volunteered” into the TH&VS Army Cadets Corps for an upcoming Annual Parade and Inspection. We were inspected by a senior army officer who commended us on our effort, deportment and turnout. He also included a caveat for us to always strive to do better.



Shortly thereafter, I joined the Sea Cadet Corps “Tiger”. Perhaps it was in response to the lyrics “All the nice girls love a sailor....” My odyssey with “Tiger” led to promotion through the ranks and culminated with my appointment in 1954 as Commanding Officer with the rank of Lieutenant. I proudly followed in the footsteps of Lieut. “Chip” Ball, Lieut. Cmdr. Bill Hitch, and Lieut. Harry Birkenshaw (TH&VS teacher).

My continuing interest in the military led to service as a reserve officer in The Algonquin Regiment of Canada, The Royal Canadian Regiment and The Royal Regiment of Canada. I was awarded the CD and retired as a Major.

Teachers: Our teachers were demanding, stressed accountability, didn’t tolerate mediocrity, and commanded respect. One teacher who had a profound influence on me was Miss Lily Anderson – Grade 13 English. She gave freely of her time and interest at a time when I resonated with Hamlet’s musings and soliloquies, particularly “To be or not to be.....” She inspired me toward a career in the teaching profession through her example. She believed that teaching was not only challenging through interaction with young and inquiring minds but also provided an opportunity for self-actualization.

My career path led from the classroom to administration and postgraduate studies with a doctorate in education at the University of Toronto

Football: Mr. Don Clark was coach of the Senior Blues, of which I was a member. Our banner year was 1947 when we went to the NOSSA (Northern Ontario Secondary School Association) championship finals in Sudbury. We played against the Sudbury Tech Blue Devils, a formidable team that emerged as champions. The camaraderie that evolved among the players on our team has continued through the years. A golf-day tradition was initiated by Bob Gavan, Don Menard, Don Brennan and Lloyd Kramp in 1969, under the banner “Timmins Good Old Boys”. The golf day has continued annually in various venues. As older members “fade away”, younger TH&VS members are joining our ranks. The TH&VS spirit lives on!

Potpourri:

Mr. Armstrong: "Man, use common, everyday horse sense!"

Mr. Hartman: "Leave us begin...."

Mr. Leppan: "To a student sweeping the shop floor – "Push broom implies pushing dirt away, not pulling it towards your feet."

Principal Rose: Upon entering the upper boys' washroom, sees billows of cigarette smoke emanating from under a cubicle door – "Who is the guilty one this time?"

Dance for Neophytes: The Students' Social Committee held noon-hour sessions to train boys not to stomp on girls' toes.

Final word:

My marriage to the love of my life - Therese "Terri" Charette, former Timmins teacher - continues beyond 50 years. We have 3 sons and 3 adorable grandchildren. In closing, I wish to say that TH&VS has been a significant milestone in my life.