

Orchard View
BY THE MISSISSIPPI
ALMONTE

The Monthly Review

August 2023



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Resident of the Month: Billy Wiles

Written by: Gunda Kutyma

Billy Wiles was born in New York City in 1924 to parents from the east coast (Boston and New Jersey). She was an only child. Billy lived in New Canaan, Connecticut with her mother, who didn't organize family gatherings with her in-laws, so Billy never met the cousins on her father's side. While growing up, Billy wrote poetry and stories about her life. Unfortunately, her work was never published. She went to university in Philadelphia and studied English Literature, which may not have been practical, but fed her love of reading.

Billy enjoyed a life filled with travel and homes in many different countries. She met her husband, Don, in Cambridge, Massachusetts at MIT. He received his PhD in chemistry and she worked for an engineering professor. After marrying in 1952, they moved to Norway, where their daughter, Anne, was born. Both Billy and Don loved the lifestyle with its gorgeous scenery and incredible people. Washing diapers by hand may not have been exciting, but otherwise, it was a great experience. Before they left Norway, the couple took a month-long trip through Europe in a VW Beetle, visiting Finland, Germany, France and Yugoslavia, among other countries. Billy kept a diary of their travels.

Billy and Don moved back to the U.S. for a short time before Don accepted a job at UBC in Vancouver. They were there for ten years. Their daughter, Karen, and son, Peter, were born there and Billy stayed home to care for the children. The family loved the landscape and views. The children learned to ski and the family spent a lot of time on the slopes as well as camping.

After moving to Ottawa in 1959, the next big change came in 1969 when the family moved in the Black Forest area in Germany and the children became fluent in the language. The family also spent time on a farm near Renfrew and another farm near Almonte. While farming, they raised Maine Anjou cattle and sheep, baled a lot of hay, raised vegetables and grew flowers. After many years of farming, it was time to retire. The children were grown and living independently. Anne is a research scientist and works in risk evaluation. Karen runs conferences in hotels. Peter is a teacher.

An important part of Billy and Don's life was flying. Don loved flying and got his instructor's license, while Billy joined him and also became a pilot. They owned a single-engine Cessna 150 and Billy's furthest trip as a pilot was to the Caribbean. Also important in Billy's life was being a guide at both the Ottawa Museum of Science and the Aviation Museum. She loved teaching children worthwhile information because she loved learning new things herself.



It was during this time that Billy got her Canadian citizenship. However, most important to Billy is her large and agreeable family. Along with her three children, she has 7 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. They all love to get together and have fun. Several family members live nearby and visit often, which is great because Billy loves to talk. She is shy to initiate, but more than happy to join in conversations

Billy is an avid reader, gardener and singer. She was part of Ottawa Choral Society and a soprano in church. Billy also volunteered with the Almonte Horticultural Society. She loved to entertain and cooked a mean roast beef, as well as cheese bread. Nowadays, Billy goes out to sit and enjoy the OVM gardens, which are amazing this year due to the heat, sun and rain. She even has a sunflower growing in the gardens. Billy is happy to live at OVM because her family can visit her at any time, she is well taken care of and it is a beautiful place to call home.

Orchard View Turns 7

We can't believe its our anniversary again! What a wild time we have had, from first opening, to building and introducing the Town Home Residents to our Community and then living through the big bad COVID pandemic for three plus years. The time doesn't slow down or stop no matter what. We can't thank our Residents, family members and the community for trusting us, supporting us and loving us on the highs and lows. We are a strong group of people over here at OVM and we wouldn't change it for the world. Here are some milestones over the past seven years at OVM

The resident living at OVM the longest is Billy W.

Our original management team including: Julie, Lisa D and Michael with Lana and Lisa I as original staff who have transitions to the management team.

We have the original geese, and the offspring of the original ducks.

All but two of the choi fish are here as of July

Joanna has had her garden from the first summer of 2016

The Tulips that come up at the front sign were planted the first fall of 150 Canada

In 2018 in our second year the Town Homes joined our community

We planted our orchard in 2021 and have fruit growing now.

Keep on



Smiling



Employee of the Month - Janice

Congratulations Janice on being awarded employee of the month for August! As some may know, Janice is one of our Receptionists, taking your calls, helping you with your day to day needs and greeting us over the intercom with daily activities. Janice is a great team player, so polite and friendly, she helps with everyone's needs and so much more. Thank you Janice for all you do for the staff, managers and the OVM Residents, your hard work and patience.

Special Events in August

August 1st - Orchard Views 7th Anniversary

August 12th - Bowling Day

August 17th - Watermelon Crawl

August 20th - Lemonade Social

August 21st - Senior Citizen Day

August 24th - RCMP Musical Ride in Almonte

August 25th - Banana Splits with Happy Hour

August 28th - OVM Staff Baby Day

August 31st - Staff BBQ & Eat Outside Day

Laugh out Loud with Orchard View

My family just celebrated the 200th anniversary of owning a buffalo farm.

That's right, it's our bison-ennial.

It's our wedding anniversary today. My wife and I have been happily married for two years now.

1995 and 2009.

Our anniversary is coming up, so my wife told me that she would be happy as long as I get her something with a lot of diamonds in it.

She's going to love this pack of playing cards.

This is a good moment for you to think about what you would say to yourself if you could quickly go back in time. Don't tell us what it

Testimonial ~ Charlotte Costello

I recently had a stay at the hospital and I was so happy to come home to my friends. Everything I have is here; my things, my friends and my family. My daughters and their families as well as my sisters love coming here to see me. They know I am in a good place, that take care of me when I need it., there are lots of things for us to do and they think it is a beautiful home.

One of the best things about living here is I don't have to cook anymore. No groceries, no planning, no cleaning up. If what is on the menu isn't something that I like, I have other choices.

The other aspect that is great is that I can age in place. As my needs change, so can the level of care be provided. I dread the thought of having to move again because I would have to start all over again. I'll stay here, as this is my home.

Open Activities

- ~ Bistro ~ Puzzle Tables ~ Joe on Piano
- ~ Wellness Centre Bike and Walking Bars
- ~ Adult Colouring ~ Bingo
- ~ Social Distanced Bingo with Joanna and Friends
- ~ Massage Chairs (Wellness Centre/2nd Floor Lounge/3rd Floor Lounge)
- ~ Library ~ Weekly Bus Outings
- ~ Tuck Shop ~ Scrabble
- ~ Church Services / Rosary Prayers
- ~ Fitness classes on Main & 3rd with Almonte Physio
- ~ Door to Door Mind Work Games
- ~ Musical Entertainment & LOTS MORE!

Volunteers are always

appreciated...

Do you enjoy giving back to the community? Do you want to feel invested in the lives of others? Do you enjoy making a difference in the lives of Seniors?

Become a volunteer at Orchard View by the Mississippi! Whether you enjoy arts and crafts, trivia, knitting, musical entertainment or walking we have a place for you!

Contact Michael Rowland at ovmrecreation@ovlc.com OR 613-963-5000



Orchard View by the Mississippi Invites you to

Monica's 103 Birthday DOG PARADE



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August 9th
10-11:00am

Monica is turning 103 and is a loyal dog lover, We would like to celebrate her birthday by inviting some furry friends to a dog parade! We ask that all dogs are on leash at all times, are well socialized and upto date on vaccines. Monica will be thrilled to meet and greet with the dogs and their owners on our back patio around the gazebo.

Let Michael know if you can attend ovmrecreation@ovlc.com or 613-963-5000

HAPPY

7 Year

Orchard View

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Anniversary

August 1st 2023
3-4:00pm

We invite family members, community members and friends to come and celebrate with us in our Anniversary Party

We will have Yardgameguy Backyard games, Humming Bird Ice Cream Bike Cart, Trio Bike Rides and some of OVM Residents favourite activities & Entertainment

Let us know if you can come by emailing us at ovmreception@ovlc.com or call 613-963-5000

In keeping with tradition, year 7 is copper, should you have any pennies still around please bring them to add to our copper road.