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MY NAME IS EDWIN CHARLES DONMOYER AND I WAS BORN HERE IN WOODSTOCK IN 1947. I'M THE SECOND SIBLING IN A FAMILY OF 4, THREE BOYS AND ONE GIRL. I WAS NAMED AFTER MY GRANDFATHER CHARLES EDWIN DONMOYER WHO EMIGRATED FROM THE USA AND THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA. HE CAME HERE FOR WORK AND MET MY GRANDMOTHER EDNA TURNER AND HAD TWO CHILDREN, MY DAD AND MY UNCLE. MY GRANDFATHER PASSED AWAY WHEN MY DAD WAS 12 YRS OLD SO OF COURSE I NEVER MET HIM. I DO ~~KNOW~~ HE HAD AN ASSOCIATION WITH THE BEGINNING OF THE LOCAL MASONIC CHAPTER IN THE 1920'S. HIS PICTURE IS ON THE WALL OF THE LODGE HERE IN TOWN.

I ATTENDED SCHOOL IN WOODSTOCK INCLUDING CENTRAL SENIOR PUBLIC AND THE WOODSTOCK COLLEGIATE

ONE OF MY FIRST JOBS WAS DELIVERING THE GLOBE AND MAIL NEWSPAPER AROUND WOODSTOCK. I LIVED WELL FROM THE PROCEEDS OF NEWS DELIVERY AND GENEROUS TIPS WHICH INCLUDED A WEEK LONG STAY AT A BOYS CAMP AT FISHERS GLEN ON THE SHORES OF LAKE ERIE.

AT 20 YRS OF AGE I WAS OFFERED AN OPPORTUNITY TO CADDY FOR MY GIRLFRIENDS FATHER. THE VERY DAY OF THE EVENT I WAS RIDING ON THE BACK OF A FRIENDS MOTORCYCLE AND WAS HIT BY A CAR AND WE BOTH SUSTAINED BROKEN LEGS, WHICH ABRUPTLY ENDED MY CADDYING CAREER BEFORE IT BEGAN.

LATER ON WHEN MY LEG HAD HEALED I RECEIVED A SMALL INSURANCE CLAIM PAYOUT. THIS CHANGED MY LIFE AT THIS TIME, NOT IN ANY GREAT MONETARY WAY BUT SENT IT IN A NEW DIRECTION. A GOOD FRIEND HAD BEEN ENCOURAGING ME FOR WEEKS AND WEEKS TO COME WITH HIM TO EUROPE AND HITCHHIKE OUR WAY BETWEEN YOUTH HOSTELS AND ALSO TO VISIT SOME OF HIS SCOTTISH RELATIVES. WITH MY NEW FOUND WEALTH FROM THE MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT I HAD ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY OFF ALL MY BILLS AND PURCHASE \$1000 WORTH OF TRAVELLERS CHEQUES AND A ONE WAY TICKET TO SHANNON IRELAND.

IN 1968 TO 1969 THAT \$1000 ALLOWED US TO TRAVEL THROUGH IRELAND, SCOTLAND, ENGLAND, FRANCE, SPAIN, PORTUGAL AND ITALY FOR $5\frac{1}{2}$ MONTHS. I EVEN BOUGHT A DISCOUNT FLIGHT FROM LONDON ENGLAND BACK TO CANADA WITH MONEY I HAD LEFT. I DON'T THINK THIS COULD HAPPEN TODAY!

WE HAD GRAND PLANS ON ARRIVING BACK IN WOODSTOCK TO HITCHHIKE ACROSS CANADA BUT LACK OF FUNDS PUT AN END TO THAT DREAM.

MOST OF MY FRIENDS AT THIS POINT HAD MOVED AWAY TO FURTHER THEIR EDUCATION OR TO FIND WORK IN MORE EXCITING PLACES.

THEY DECIDED PLAYING SNOOKER AT SAM'S POOL HALL WASN'T GOING TO CUT IT ANYMORE.

SINCE I HAD FRITTERED MY TIME AWAY THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL, I HAD TO APPLY AS A MATURE STUDENT IF I WAS GOING TO GAIN ANY DEGREE OF HIGHER LEARNING. I WAS ACCEPTED AT HUMBER COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY AND SPENT THE NEXT 3 YRS PAYING THE PIPER FOR THE FUN TIMES I HAD IN HIGH SCHOOL.

I DID MANAGE TO GET A TECHNOLOGY DEGREE IN INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING. FOLLOWING SCHOOL I WAS ABLE TO WORK WITH BELL CANADA AS A MARKETING SALES REP, HOWEVER AFTER ONE YEAR I KNEW I WASN'T CUT OUT TO BE A SALESMAN.

I MOVED BACK TO WOODSTOCK FROM TORONTO TO WORK IN THE BUILDING AND RENOVATING BUSINESS WHICH DEFINITELY BETTER SUITED ME FOR THE NEXT 17 OR SO YEARS.

I MET MY WIFE TO BE, MARILYN, DURING MY SECOND YEAR OF COLLEGE AND WE MARRIED IN 1974. I NOW HAD TWO GREAT STEPCHILDREN AND EVENTUALLY SEVEN WONDERFUL GRANDCHILDREN.

DURING OUR 45 YEARS OF MARRIAGE WE HAVE OWNED AND EXTENSIVELY RENOVATED 12 HOMES INCLUDING 3 COTTAGES AND ONE 5 UNIT APARTMENT BUILDING AND A HOME IN FLA. WE DIDN'T BUY THESE PLACES TO FLIP AND RESSELL ON PURPOSE, WE JUST SEEMED TO GET THEM ALL FINISHED AND NEEDED SOMETHING ELSE TO DO.

OVER THE YEARS IVE SANG IN BARBERSHOP QUARTETS, CHURCH CHIRS, FISHED AND HUNTED AS MUCH AS I COULD, HOME BREWED BEER AND WINE, BUILT A VIOLIN FROM A KIT AND ENJOYED MANY GREAT FAMILY TIMES

BEFORE I RETIRED 12 YEARS AGO I SPENT 19 YEARS AT CAMI AUTOMOTIVE IN INGER SOLL IN THE ASSEMBLY REPAIR DEPARTMENT.

IVE HAD A BLESSED LIFE SO FAR AND AM LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT CHAPTER WHICH I HOPE WILL INCLUDE CATCHING THE NEXT BIG FISH, HARVESTING THAT MONSTER BUCK, BUILDING ANOTHER VIOLIN FROM SCRATCH, LEARNING TO PLAY IT AND SPENDING LOTS OF QUALITY TIME WITH MY WIFE AND FAMILY.