

August 2020

**Summers are for sandals, picnics,
BBQs, late nights outside and to feel
the power of the water.**



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Resident of the Month: Terry

Written by: Brent Connelly

Well, we're back—this time to feature a very well-liked couple who live in the Orchard View townhouse complex, which consists of thirty-two independent-living units. The townhouse tenants, on occasion, are affectionately referred to as those "Johnnie-come-lately Townies" by a few of the more senior residents of the main OVM retirement centre. A very excited Terry and Donna were the first townhouse couple to join the OVM family, in November 2018, when they moved into their new home in townhouse number 1.

In her typically modest fashion, Donna suggested that I focus this brief glimpse at their lives on her husband Terry, and with a little chuckle, she added, "It has been a real-life adventure being married to Terry for the last fifty-five years; you are going to need all the space you can fetch just to scratch the surface of the story about my space-aged husband."

Terry Hodgson was born in Toronto in 1943. His father worked for Bell Canada, so as a youngster, he grew up along with his two sisters (one older, one younger) in various communities in southwestern Ontario, such as Windsor, London, and St. Catharines. Upon graduating from St. Catharines Collegiate in 1961, and at the age of eighteen, he joined the Royal Canadian Navy. And thus, he began a very exciting career that would have James Bond sit up and take notice.

An initial assessment of his skills and interests by Navy officials led him to intensive training as an analyst focusing on the monitoring of Russian military and civilian communications, through the use of cryptology (the art of making and breaking codes). This also included a year-long

Russian-language training program. Later on, he became a supervisor of other analysts and tells of one harrowing "cat-and-mouse" experience that he and his crew had one day in 1968 as they were "working the board" at the Canadian Forces Station at Alert on Ellesmere Island (only 500 miles from the North Pole). They were tracking all sorts of aircraft movement over northern Russia, when one of his operators noticed a large number of heavy bombers leaving central Russia and heading northward. Eventually, they tracked thirty-two bombers flying up and over the North Pole and out of sight. Talk about a panic situation! Immediately, notification was dispatched to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and to Ottawa's Communications Branch of the National Research Council (CBNRC), which was the forerunner of the present-day Communications Security Establishment (CSE, which is Canada's national cryptologic agency). Defence officials in the United Kingdom and the United States were also alerted.

Later that night, while sipping on a cold beer in the mess hall, and by that time being quite relaxed, Terry had described the outcome of that nail-biting day: "Thankfully, they were only playing with us, and eventually they turned around and went back home. Lesson learned: don't poke the bear; it could be a polar bear."

At various times, in his twenty-plus-year career in the Navy, Terry was sent to that same remote listening post at Alert. The trips lasted six months; some were in total darkness, and others were in total daylight. The only means of communicating with his family back home was over the ham radio, where the whole world could listen in.

The 1968 encounter with the bombers wasn't the first time that Terry had locked horns with the Russians. Prior to that, in 1962-63, while he served on the aircraft carrier HMCS *Bonaventure* (the "Bonny"), the ship had become involved in the Cuban blockade and was on hand to intervene in the transport of Russian military armaments to Cuba.

While on the subject of the "Bonny," Terry also recalls the time, in 1963, when they were sailing off Gibraltar and received orders to return to Halifax to pick up six hundred army types and their vehicles and transport them post-haste to Cyprus, a trip that lasted roughly two weeks:

The first day out was smooth sailing with calm waters, and all six hundred army types came up onto the cable deck for their daily ration of 2.5 ounces of over-proof rum. Needless to say, they all enjoyed the rum and thought us Navy guys had it made. However, the next day at sea we hit rough water, and the ship began to toss and turn. We went up and down and side to side, but the Navy guys just smiled and showed up to draw their rum ration at the appropriate time. When I asked the three army lads (who happened to be Newfoundlanders), who came up for their toddy of rum, where the rest of their 597 mates were, one of them replied with a twinkle in his eye, "Wee's not shore, bye," he replied, "but we tinks dem mainlanders cot dat dam grip [flu], cuz dey're still below crawlin' round on der 'ans an' nees, spillin' der guts out into dose porcelain trones."



Terry and Donna were married in 1965 and immediately left for Inuvik (90 miles from the Beaufort Sea) with Donna's daughter, Kim (aged three), where they remained until 1967. Then the family was off to Moncton, New Brunswick, where their daughter Karen was born in 1969. They returned to Inuvik in 1975 for another stint until 1978, when they received a well-deserved posting to the warmer climes of Bermuda where they remained until returning to Ottawa in 1980. Kim decided to stay in Bermuda where she married John Morley, and together they raised a son, Justin. Karen now resides in Orleans with her partner Shawn. She has two children, Brooke (married and living in Kingston) and Jacob, who is thinking about getting married and is living in Orleans.

There is much more to Terry Hodgson than playing "hide and seek" with the Russians and hosting "happy hours" on the cable deck of the HMCS *Bonaventure*. He retired from the military in 1982 and joined Telesat Canada as a satellite controller, where he became a member of a team that launched, monitored, and controlled Canada's communications satellites from their Ottawa location. During this time, he attended Carleton University with sights set on a degree in product development. In 1994, he left Telesat for a new career at Mitel as a project manager working on new projects for the telecommunications industry. He stayed there until 1997 when Nortel came calling with an offer he couldn't refuse. He was a project manager and component engineer, helping to introduce new designs in high-speed telephone switches.

His final retirement came ten years later, and in his own words, he describes that time of his life: "I retired in 2007 and settled into that life rather easily. Donna and I had a beautiful home in Kanata, with grandchildren in Ottawa, Kingston, and Bermuda (plus one great-granddaughter) to visit and to spoil. We travelled a bit but mostly enjoyed cruising with family and enjoying the various ports that we visited in the Caribbean. Life was very good!"

Thank you for your service to Canada, Terry and Donna!

Keep on



Canada Day was a thrill. We had many different activities and socials happening throughout the day. Best of all the Parade... maybe the maple cookies too! We have been working our biker legs and the puppies have been melting our hearts.





Even though this summer is different, we are still making the most of this hot summer weather!



Employee of the Month - Keith Martin

Congratulations, Keith, on being this month's employee of the month! Keith is a chef at OVM and a delightful one at that. You will often find Keith singing in the kitchen, talking goofy, asking how everyone is that day, making special meals for everyone and overall a team player. He has helped a tremendous amount as the kitchen has changed over the years. He is happy to be here and happy to help. This makes him one great team player at OVM. Thank you Keith for all your hard work and funny personality. We are happy to have you with us!

Testimonial - Family of Roberta D.

Thanks for the care you and the team provided Roberta over the past 4 years. Even on the gloomiest of days, whether rain or snow, I was always greeted by the friendly person at the front desk sitting in front of 'Las Vegas style' foyer. Roberta was always happy and felt her care was second to none which, of course, it was. Our Thursday outings were the highlight of my week and she always looked forward to getting back to her 'home' at 219 Paterson St. We so enjoyed the festive events that were staged and of course everyone was always dressed for the occasion. All the best to you and the amazing staff at Orchard View and continued success.

Laugh out Loud at Orchard View - Quarantine Fun

**PRETTY WILD
HOW WE USED TO
EAT CAKE AFTER
SOMEONE HAD
BLOWN ON IT...
GOOD TIMES...**

“

I NEED TO PRACTICE
SOME SOCIAL
DISTANCING FROM
MY REFRIGERATOR

“All About Me”

Where was your favourite place to live? Town, City, Country, Rural? And what was that home like?

Is there some opportunity you said no to (work or personal) but wish you hadn't?

Open Activities

- ~ Outdoor Patios - Gardens (should you have one)
- ~ Bistro ~ Puzzle Tables
- ~ Wellness Centre Bike and Walking Bars
- ~ NEW! Weekly Scavenger Hunt throughout the building
- ~ Joe on the Piano

~ Massage Chairs
(Wellness Centre)

~ Docking Station for phone calls
or Video Calls on the computer

~ Library ~ Tuck Shop

~ Church Services / Rosary
Prayer

~ OVM Chorus Practice

Musical Entertainment

With the recent COVID -19 we will not be having any outside entertainment at this time.

Joe will be playing twice a week on Tuesdays and Fridays



Is the mail in?

As the days go on, many residents look forward to receiving mail. A letter, magazine, picture, postcard, (no bills). If you wish to send or drop off mail for the residents, either general or for a specific resident, we know they would be thrilled!

Resident Art Show

In late summer we will be having a resident Art Show. As Audrey starts her "Open Art with Audrey" sessions come late August. We have many painters—carvers ect. This will enable the residents to show off a piece of them others may not have known about.

COVID—19 UPDATE from OVM

As the summer months continue and we as a province and country are handling the new normal, more and more changes take place. With testing, family members and guests can now make appointments to come into our home and visit their loved ones. With anything there are rules in place to keep everyone, including visitors, safe.

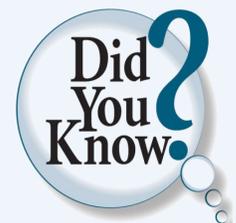
We continue to have weekly entertainment outside for residents and Town Home Residents to enjoy.

We have happily greeted our new residents to OVM and we can't wait to get to know them all a bit better.

JoJo's Did You Know?

Red sky at night, sailors' delight,
red sky in the morning sailors take
warning.

This "red saying" means that high pressure (good weather) has passed, indicating a strong system (low pressure) may be moving in. A morning sky that is a deep fiery red can indicate that there is a high water content in the atmosphere, so rain could be on the way.



ALMONTE GENERAL HOSPITAL RUN FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

Saturday September 12th 10:00am



In years past we have cheered on the runners, given them water and froze our toes off. This year is different. This year it will be us walking. Have your family member pledge and we will walk our building block.

<https://almontehospitalfoundation.com/our-events/runforwomenshealth/>