

25TH ANNUAL HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR -

UNSUNG HEROES

Sunday, September 8, 2019



The Beechwood Cemetery Foundation presents:

Unsung Heroes

This tour is held annually to acknowledge and applaud the contributions and accomplishments of the various people buried at Beechwood Cemetery.

Join us, as we honour 4 Canadians, who despite their impact in life, have faded into distant memories. They protected the city of Ottawa, helped combat racial issues, fought for the rights of veterans, and were leaders in their communities. Beechwood refuses to let them remain nameless any longer. Share in the stories of real men and women who will be brought to life by actors from Ottawa School of Theatre as we celebrate the unsung heroes.

More notable people buried at Beechwood can be found in our Historical Portraits booklet, available both on our website and in hard copy at our main office. We welcome any suggestions you may have for additional people we can include there, and we're also always looking for suggestions for themes for future tours.

History Told, Lives Celebrated



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H. CLIFFORD CHADDERTON

Sec 103, Gr 1871B



H. Clifford Chadderton
Credit: War Amps

Born on May 9, 1919, in Fort William, H. Clifford Chadderton was more than just a Second World War Veteran. After surviving D-Day, Chadderton lost part of his right leg while in command of a company of The Royal Winnipeg Rifles battling for the Scheldt Estuary in Belgium and Holland in October 1944. Upon his return to Canada in 1944, Chadderton joined The War Amps. Heavily involved within the organization, was appointed Executive Secretary in 1965, and later made Chief Executive Officer of The War Amps. Under his leadership, the Association transitioned from helping only veterans to a charitable institution that aimed to represent all Canadian amputees. His focus and main achievements however, involved children. Founding the Child Amputee Program (CHAMP), to help cover costs of artificial limbs and support programs, Chadderton also established Matching Mothers, to bring



together new and experienced CHAMP families for advice and support. Other programs include PLAYSAFE, a program to promote child safety with a “kids-to-kids” approach, and JUMPSTART, which ensures amputee children have the computer skills they need for an independent future.

On top of his work with The War Amps, Chadderton held positions as Adviser to the Minister of Labour in veterans’ rehabilitation, Director of the Canadian Army Financial Welfare Program, National Secretary of the Army Benevolent Fund and was Chairman of the National Council of Veteran Association (NCVA).

While serving as Secretary and Executive Director of the Woods Committee, from 1965 to 1968, Chadderton was a part of an extensive study on veterans pension legislation in Canada. The three-volume study gave veterans a complete and detailed explanation of virtually every section of the Pension Act, as well as 148 recommendations to improve the legislation.

Through his position at the NCVA and The War Amps, Chadderton advocated for veterans, both disabled and not, their families, and their children. Standing in front of tribunals, the House of Commons and Senate, he presented all kinds of recommendations for better helping Canadian veterans.

For more than a decade, he led a successful battle to see justice served for Canada’s Hong Kong veterans, who were forced into slave labour during the Second World War. As Patron of the Hong Kong Veterans Association, and working with Dr. John Humphrey, co-author of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Dr. Gustave Gingras, honorary president of the Canadian Human Rights Foundation and internationally renowned specialist in rehabilitative medicine, and Brian Forbes, as Association Legal Counsel, a leading advocate in International Law and Human Rights, they fought for compensation, both at the UN Human Rights Tribunals in Geneva, Switzerland, and before the Canadian government in Ottawa. Compensation of \$24,000 was awarded to each surviving PoW or their widows in December 1998.

During his life and career, he received numerous awards, including being inducted into the Order of Canada, the Order of Ontario, the Canada Veterans Hall of Valour and the Terry Fox Hall of Fame, Knight in the Order of the Legion of Honour of France, the Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation, the Royal Bank Award for Canadian Achievement and the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee medal.

He died November 30, 2013.




HOWARD ROBERT LAMBERT

Sec 110, Lot 51, Range 10, Gr 2




Howard Lambert
Credit: Lambert Family

Born January 5th, 1938, Howard Robert Lambert risked his life saving the citizens of Ottawa from fires. Known to his colleagues as one of the best firefighters this city had ever seen, Lambert rose through the ranks to retire as executive fire chief for the Ottawa Fire Services. Joining up on February 3rd, 1958, he barely made the height and weight requirements, but pushed



through with vigor that earned the respect of his colleagues. He would go to great lengths to save lives; during an all-night blaze firefighter Dawson McVeeters became separated from his unit after climbing on to the roof. Suddenly it collapsed under him but just as he felt himself falling into the pits, Lambert grabbed him. “If you’re going to go down, I’m going to go down with you. Because you’re not going to die alone,” he told McVeeters. The heroism he continually displayed helped him move up through the ranks. Becoming a captain in the 1970s, followed by acting district chief in the late 1980s, Lambert was then district chief and finally executive chief in the 1990s. His rank allowed him to help establish the Ottawa forces’ first formal command and control systems, which separates sections of large fires for better control. When he retired in 1998, on doctor’s orders, Lambert had worked at almost every fire station in Ottawa and had at least 300 firefighters (half of the city’s numbers) under his command. Lambert passed away on March 9, 2002.




ISIS MINERVA OFFICER

Section 51N- SG56A




Isis Officer

Born in Jamaica, Officer came to Canada in 1965 to work as a nurse at the Ottawa Civic Hospital. Her life was not only dedicated to physically saving lives, but also working diligently to improve race relations in Ottawa and helping those in need. Officer began her long career with the Ottawa Police in the early 1990's when she volunteered with the Ottawa-Carleton Area Police and Community Council. Through the Council, she became a key stakeholder in the Partnership in Action initiative. She also served as a member on the Ottawa Police Service's Race Relations Advisory Committee. Officer worked as a police race relations mediator with the Jamaican



community and multicultural liaison officer. She went to schools in the community to promote diversity and help immigrants adjust to Canadian life. She repeatedly assisted and attended community dialogues, problem-solving sessions, and training development for the police service. Officer was a co-founder of the Jamaican Ottawa Community Association, an organization that works to develop a social and political voice for Jamaicans in Canada. For her efforts, she received a number of awards including the Award for Excellence from the Canadian Centre for Police Race Relations and the Order of Distinction which is one of Jamaica's highest honours. In her honour, the Ottawa Police Service created The Isis Officer Ethnocultural Equity Award. It is presented annually to two schools, one elementary and one secondary, which demonstrate outstanding effort in the area of ethnocultural equity within the school, the Board and/or the community. The recipient schools must demonstrate a strong commitment to promoting equity and ethnocultural harmony through inclusive learning environments that promote fairness of access and treatment for all students. Officer's efforts in the community weren't only political. She worked with Meals on Wheels and volunteered with the elderly and disabled, driving them to appointments and providing comfort and support. Throughout her life, she financially supported her family and friends back home in Jamaica. Officer passed away after a long battle with cancer on December 18, 2000 at the age of 75.



JEAN MORRISON PIGOTT

Sec 47, Lot 99, Gr 2

Jean Elizabeth Morrison Pigott was a pillar of the Ottawa business community. Born on May 20, 1924, she was the eldest daughter of Cecil Morrison, owner of the Morrison-Lamothe bakery. From a young age, Jean was taught about profits and losses, customer relations and practiced basic bill payments for the family at the age of eleven. Her father took the extra step of forbidding her to take typing lessons lest she becomes a secretary. All that grooming paid off when after a year at Albert College Jean officially joined her father in the business. In 1948, at the age of 24, Jean was put in charge of rebuilding a failing restaurant on Rideau St. While assembling her team, Jean hired accountant Arthur Pigott as her assistant manager. They were married in October 1955, and Jean left the work force to raise her three children.

In the early 1960's, Morrison Lamothe bakery had over extended itself and was in danger of going bankrupt. At the age of 42, Jean was asked by her father to take over, making her one of three female CEO's in Ottawa at the time. Choosing to break into the frozen food business, the bakery turned a profit her first year.

After conquering the business world, Jean moved on to serve the public by successfully running for Conservative MP for the riding of Ottawa-Carleton. However, three years later she lost her seat but was then asked to be an advisor to then Prime Minister Joe Clark. In 1984, she was appointed by then Prime Minister Brian Mulroney as chairwoman of the National Capital Commission (NCC), where she showed her innovation and a knack for saving money. On top of being the first woman chair of the NCC, Pigott also served as the first chairwoman of the Ottawa Congress Centre as well as a number of corporate boards and charities, including Ontario Hydro. She was also a member of the predominantly masculine Rideau Club. In 1995, she was made an officer in the Order of Canada. She died on January 10th, 2012.



Jean Pigott
Credit: Pigott Family



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