



Bob Dawson

July 26, 1919 - July 25, 2003

Bob Dawson lived eighty-four good years, fifty-two married to Gynell and forty-eight as a Rotarian.

He was one of the first new members to join the fledgling Rotary Club of Manchester (now Calgary South.) Bob was inducted May 8, 1955, less than three months after the approval of the new Club and only a couple of meetings following the Club Charter Night.

Bob served as President of the Club in 1971 - 1972. One of his lasting legacies is our annual tree planting which has added beauty to River Park, Lindsay Park, Pearce Estates, Richmond Green, Rotary Park and Prairie Winds Park. Over six hundred trees have been planted in our city parks thanks to Bob's foresight and leadership.



Bob and Gynell Dawson - Tree Planting 2002

(new member Adrian Anderson introduced by Bob, Bob, Gynell, Terry McDonough, President Jack Thompson)

Bob served as District 536 Governor in 1979 - 1980, spreading his wit, humor and dedication to Rotary throughout Clubs in Alberta and parts of British Columbia and Saskatchewan.



**Rotary International President James L. Bomar, Edith Bomar, Gynell Dawson
and Bob
Peace Park - 1979**

Bob attended our meeting on Thursday July 25. He brought his quick wit, wisdom and infectious smile to every meeting. He was a class Rotarian who contributed so much. We'll always remember Bob Dawson and be thankful that - "he was one of us."

George Deegan paid tribute to Bob at the Memorial Service. Here are George's words:

Bob Dawson

THE MOTTO OF ROTARY IS "SERVICE ABOVE SELF" BOB DAWSON

WAS A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF PUTTING THAT INTO PRACTICE.

BOB INVOLVED HIS ENTIRE FAMILY IN HIS SERVICE TO ROTARY,

GYNELL WAS PRESIDENT OF THE ROTARY ANNS AND HIS DAUGHTER

CATHY AND SON-IN-LAW RENE WERE BOTH PRESIDENTS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF CALGARY FISH CREEK.

BOB WAS A MEMBER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF CALGARY SOUTH FOR 48 YEARS.

HE SERVED AS PRESIDENT, CHAIRED AND WORKED ON ALMOST ALL OUR COMMITTEES.

HE SERVED AS ROTARY INTERNATOINAL DISTRICT GOVERNOR IN 1979-80 ----- AND WHAT A FUN YEAR IT WAS.

TO GET A BETTER INSIGHT INTO BOB'S ROTARY INVOLVMENT I WENT TO HIS LONG TIME ROTARY FRIEND, CLAYTON CARROLL.

CLAYTON ALONG WITH HIS WIFE NORMA TOURED THE WORLD OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL, WITH BOB AND GYNELL.

THEY ATTENDED CONVENTIONS TOGETHER IN ROME, TOKYO, BIRMINGHAM, SYDNEY, SWITZERLAND, CHICAGO AND DALLAS.

CLAYTONS FIRST COMMENT TO ME WAS THAT IT WAS TOO BAD BOB HOPE HAD PASSED AWAY SO RECENTLY, BECAUSE HE WAS NOT SURE IF THE ALMIGHTY COULD HANDLE BOTH BOBS AT THE SAME TIME.

AT THE CHICAGO CONVENTION, THE TWO COUPLES WERE TAKING A TAXI FROM THE HOTEL WHEN THE DRIVER ASKED IF THEY MINDED THAT HE SMOKED -----BOB REPLIED IMMEDIATELY " NOT AT ALL----AS LONG AS YOU CAN STICK YOUR HEAD OUT THE WINDOW AND DRIVE AT THE SAME TIME".

NORMA TELLS THE STORY OF HOW THEY DECIDED TO STAY HOME

ONE EVENING AND TEACH BOB HOW TO PLAY BRIDGE.

“HOW MUCH WILL WE PLAY FOR”, ASKED BOB. ONE TENTH OF A CENT SAID GYNELL. ‘LET’S NOT BE CHEAP, LET’S MAKE IT ONE CENT A POINT”, SAID BOB.

TO MAKE A LONG STORY SHORT THE BOYS PAID THE GIRLS \$30.00 EACH AND THAT WAS THE LAST TIME THEY EVER PLAYED FOR ONE CENT A POINT.

I WAS NOT IN THE CLUB DURING BOB’S TERM AS PRESIDENT, HOWEVER CLAYTON TOLD ME THAT HE PACKED THE HOUSE EVERY MEETING BECAUSE MEMBERS FROM OTHER CALGARY ROTARY CLUBS WERE MAKING UP AT CALGARY SOUTH JUST TO HEAR BOB.

BOB WAS ASKED RECENTLY BY OUR CLUB TO PUT ON HIS FAMOUS SHARP SHOOTING EXHIBITION WITH HIS BOYS AT OUR DREAM HOME VOLUNTEER THANK YOU PARTY LAST FRIDAY.

THURSDAY AFTER ROTARY HE CALLED A PRACTICE SESSION FOR HIS BOYS. -----

HE WENT HOME THAT AFTERNOON HAD DINNER WITH HIS FAMILY, TRIED ON HIS BUCKSKIN COAT WITH THE FRINGE AND HIS COON SKIN HAT, THEN OILED HIS SHOTGUN AND PRACTICED HIS JOKES ON HIS FAMILY.

HE WENT TO BED THAT NIGHT, FEELING GOOD ABOUT PERFORMING FOR HIS FRIENDS THAT NEXT DAY.

BOB, WE DIDN’T MAKE THE SHOW, BUT THE DARRELLS HAVE DECIDED

THE SHOW MUST GO ON, BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT YOU WOULD HAVE
WANTED.

THERE IS ONE THING FOR SURE, BOB---- THE ACT WILL NEVER BE THE
SAME WITHOUT YOU -----AND NEITHER WILL ROTARY.