

PHOTO FEATURE

The 34th Truro Sport Heritage Awards were presented in a gala event held at the Best Western Glengarry. Host Bruce Rainnie, Executive Director of the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame and former host of the CBC News emceed the event, Sunday, March 4th, 2018. Photos and Bios can be found throughout this issue of the Shoreline Journal.



Nearly 50 members of the Matheson family, Brookfield were on hand to accept the Dave Armstrong Memorial Family award from Scott Armstrong, son of the donor.

Tom and Flo Matheson raised their family of 10 in Brookfield. There were four girls and six boys. Three generations of Matheson's have produced many, many athletes.

Hugh Matheson was well known in Maritime hockey circles, playing defense for the Brookfield Elks in both the Truro District Hockey League and Nova Scotia Senior Hockey League. Hugh later played senior hockey for Halifax Schooners, New Glasgow Rangers and Moncton Hawks. He coached Truro Bearcats in junior hockey for nine years, there were four provincial titles, three Maritime championships and three trips to the Canada Games - winning two silver medals.

Hugh played first base for the Elks in senior softball and was assistant coach when the Elks won the Canadian senior men's fast-ball championship in 1980. Hugh was also an outstanding curler, winning two mixed provincial titles, the Johnson Cup and NS Master's Championship. Hugh and his father-in-law Don Henderson were instrumental in initiating the building of the Don Henderson Memorial Sportsplex. Hugh was inducted into the Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame in 2004.

John Matheson, a defenceman, was an outstanding hockey prospect. He played for the Elks in both intermediate and senior hockey and the Stellarton Royals in junior hockey. John attended NHL training camps with both the Detroit Red Wings and Chicago Black Hawks. A long ball hitting centrefielder in softball - John remains one of the Elks all time leading home run hitters. John, who taught phys ed for 35 years, coached many championship school teams. John inspired many of the young kids of Brookfield when he introduced them to "Chucker Ball."

Kenneth Matheson, deceased, the youngest of the Matheson brothers, chose music rather than sports.

The four Matheson girls all played softball for Brookfield, Letha (Mowatt) pitched, Edna (Graham) Verna (Locke) and Wilma (Avilia) all played in the infield. An early league included teams from Bass River, Lower Truro, East Stewiacke and Brookfield, comfortable

Win Matheson was a strong-skating forward with both the Elks and NSAC Aggies of the TDHL. He went on to star in senior hockey for the 1960-61 Elks of the Nova Scotia Senior Hockey League. He later suited up with New Glasgow Rangers. Win received an invitation to attend a professional training camp in the United States but declined because of his career as a successful dairy farmer. Win was also an avid golfer, he gave Terry Henderson quite a run for his money.

Gordon "Gully" Matheson had scoring ability many professional hockey players would have loved to have had. Playing several seasons with the Elks, Gully was a member of the 1965-66 team which uniquely included five Matheson brothers. Gully played a season in Berkley, California, playing against the touring Japanese Olympic team he scored two goals and picked up two assists and was named one of the game's three stars. Not bad for a kid who learned the trade on "the Pleasant Valley Marsh."

Vaughan "Gab" Matheson, who played defence for the Elks for a number of seasons, was offered a tryout with Toledo Blades of the International Hockey League. Named an all-star defenceman while playing intermediate hockey with the Elks, Gab was strong at positioning himself well, blocking shots and protecting his goaltender.

Kim also curled on the provincial level.

Leah Bowers played soccer and basketball at CEC. Jodie Matheson played basketball, softball and soccer at CEC. Jodie went on to play basketball for the Dalhousie Tigers. Their son, Nick Matheson played in the South Colchester Minor Hockey Association and also played basketball at CEC. Hugh and Judy's grandchild

transportation was provided - riding in the back of a large slab-wood truck. Letha enjoyed the longest softball career, eventually trying out for the Calgary Stampeders. Besides ball, Edna had a passion for curling. From 1956 to 1996 when she and Ed lived in South Porcupine, they curled across northern Ontario. Returning to their Nova Scotia roots in 1996 - the Grahams brought valuable experience to Sportsplex curling.

Hugh and Judy Matheson, keeping in mind Judy played outstanding softball for Brookfield Elkettes, was a provincial golf contender and curled competitively for a number of years throughout N.S. They raised four daughters and one son.

Oldest sister Chris Bernard, who graduated from CEC as athlete of the year in 1980, would later teach phys ed and coach fast-ball at CEC for 29 years, winning 11 high school titles. Chris played university basketball for UNB, winning three AUA championships. Playing for the Canadian junior softball team, Chris was named all-star secondbaseman. Chris won the women's golf championship at the Brookfield Golf Club an amazing 23 times in 25 years. She was also named to the NS amateur golf team and attended nationals.

Kim Dawe was athlete of the year at South Colchester High School, she played basketball, soccer and volleyball. Kim also curled on the provincial level.

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Hugh and Judy's grandchild

dren carry on the sporting tradition - Jewel Woolfitt and Isaac Matheson play provincial under 14 basketball. Lucas and Gregor Dawe starred with Brookfield Elks in Junior B hockey and fast-pitch ball. Jacob Bowers played junior B for the Elks and was a member of the under 18 Canada Games fast-pitch team. Donnie Bernard, Regan Bowers, Chloe Bowers, Jack Woolfitt, Merve, Neve and Ronan Matheson are involved in swimming, skiing, basketball and skateboarding.

John and Lynn Matheson's son, Larry, played hockey and was later an assistant coach with the 1999 Nova Scotia women's Canada Games team. Tony, a phys ed teacher in Tata-magouche, coaches high school soccer. Tony's son Cameron plays soccer. Johnny and Lynn's son Peter has sons Caleb and Thomas playing fast-pitch ball and minor hockey. Following along behind his big brothers is Josh Matheson.

Win Matheson's wife Ruth was a curler and bowler. Win and Ruth's son Trevor played minor hockey and later took up golf. Their daughter Sarah was involved in figure skating and played minor hockey.

Gab and Donna Matheson's sons Aaron, Brad and Brian played minor hockey. Gab and Donna's Granddaughter, Amy, earned a red belt in Taekwondo. A grandson Daniel played goal in minor hockey.

Daniel is now a defenceman in hockey, he also played soccer, rep lacrosse, baseball and golf.

Letha Mowatt's daughters Yan and Melanie played softball, basketball and soccer in high school.

Melanie played basketball at Mount Allison University. Letha's grandchildren Jessica and Abby played softball, basketball and soccer. Both girls made Basketball Nova Scotia U14 and U17, representing Nova Scotia at nationals. Abby made the 2017 Canada Games Team. Jessica plays basketball for ST.FX.

Abby, a grade 12 student, plans to play university basketball in the future. Sam plays both ball and hockey.

Ed and Edna Graham's sons Jeffrey and Vernon played South Porcupine minor hockey, advancing to the junior level. Both athletes also participated in softball. Their sister, Ivy, also enjoyed playing competitive hockey.

Donnie and Verna Locke's son, Stephen, was named MVP in a provincial high school basketball championship, he went on

to play university basketball for Dalhousie. Steve attended nine national fast-pitch championships with the Elks, in 1980 they were crowned Canadian champions. In 1978 Steve was named All Canadian centrefielder. A brilliant golfer, Steve has been a golf club champion 13 times, a doubles champ six times, this includes being Truro Senior Club Champion twice and Nova Scotia Club Champion in 2017. Steve and Krista's son Cody earned his PGA of Canada Card, he was named to the 2008 midget golf team, he was the 2009 Penn Hills Club Champion, he made the NS juvenile team, he was junior club champion at Brookfield and he has numerous other golf achievements.

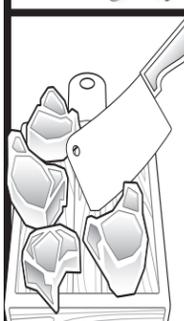
The Truro Sport Heritage Society is proud to present the "Matheson Family" as the recipient of the Dave Armstrong Memorial Sporting Family Award.

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