

The old jacket

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

remained a firefighter until he turned 65, giving him 37 years with the local department in Potton.

Jeremy Hamilton is the 29-year-old grandson of Thayne Hamilton. Inspired by his grandfather and encouraged by various members of the Mansonville Fire Department over the years, Jeremy chose to pursue firefighting as his full-time occupation. Jeremy worked at the Fire Academy in Orangeville, Ontario and then served as a part-time firefighter in rural south Ottawa. He did a full-time stint in Toronto and is currently working at Station 12 in the Glebe in the southern end of Ottawa.

As a past-time, Jeremy has been collecting firefighter patches, but to date, has not been able to get one for the Potton/Mansonville Fire Department, his hometown, representing the department that inspired him to pursue his career. Given this, his grandfather remembered his old jacket; and while it does not have the official Mansonville Fire Department patch, it is a pretty awesome item to pass down to his grandson. The sentimental value was sure to mean a lot to Jeremy.

At a Christmas Show of the CABMN Volunteer Centre in 2000, a five-year-old Jeremy appeared on stage before an audience of some 250 persons

and presented his grandfather with a special ribbon stating that, "My grandfather, Thayne Hamilton is a hero!" Over the Easter weekend on a visit home to see his parents, his mom showed the clip of that video of Jeremy some 25 years ago and following the clip, Thayne then presented the jacket to him.

Thayne, a man of few words simply stated, "Here you go!" as he handed it over with pride.

Jeremy has plans for his future in firefighting, hoping to have a long and healthy career.

"I want to watch my girls grow up and eventually get into teaching at the college or become a fire investigator for the province," he shared.

The impact on a child of a local hero, be it a member of a fire department or first responders, a police officer, a doctor or nurse, or a volunteer making a difference in a community can truly inspire a child or youth. We may never know until 25 years have passed what our true impact has been on a young mind and heart.

The old jacket has a place of honour now where it will live out its duration as someone's treasure. A forever reminder of a granddad who will always remain a hero in his grandson's eyes and it may just inspire a great-granddaughter (or two) to find her own passion in helping her community and making a difference!



Jeremy with his wife and two daughters in Ottawa

COURTESY



5 year old Jeremy Hamilton presents hero ribbon to his grandfather, Thayne Hamilton in 2000

COURTESY



ROYAL LEPAGE
AU SOMMET
 Agence immobilière
 Franchisé indépendant et
 autonome de Royal LePage

Lois Hardacker
 Courtier immobilier agréé | Chartered Real Estate Broker

B. 450-242-2000 #305

www.loishardacker.com
 lois@royallepage.ca
 3 rue Victoria, Knowlton, Qc JOE 1VO

Thank you for all your hard work and dedication.

 Celebrating Volunteer Appreciation Week
Every Moment Matters, Thank You!



Uplands Cultural and Heritage Centre : 9 Speid, Sherbrooke (Lennoxville) www.uplands.ca