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Weather



TODAY:
A MIX OF SUN
AND CLOUD

HIGH OF 23
LOW OF 13



TUESDAY:
RAIN

HIGH OF 20
LOW OF 14



WEDNESDAY:
CLOUDY

HIGH OF 223
LOW OF 10



THURSDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF 25
LOW OF 15



FRIDAY:
CLOUDY

HIGH OF 22
LOW OF 13

Twenty-five years tangled up in blue



THE SCOOP MABLE HASTINGS

*“Grow old along with me
The best is yet to be
When our time has come
We will be as one
God bless our love
God bless our love”
John Lennon*

On August 22nd my husband and I will celebrate our 25th wedding anniversary being wrapped up in a love that we call, “blue.” I know and marvel at many couples who have remained devoted to each other and who have stayed intact for many more years than we two and yet, our milestone silver achievement merits a pause for reflection.

In 1998 as I walked down the aisle of the Mansonville United Church on the arm of my eldest son, a John Lennon song re-recorded by country songstress, Mary Chapin Carpenter played; “Grow Old Along With Me.” While the United Church still stands, it is no longer a place of worship but rather, now an art gallery. We were married by the Reverend Jean Barkley, a loving spirit full of wisdom, joy and humour. Jean



PHOTOS COURTESY

left this world in 2015. Our wedding party also lost one of its members in 2007.

On occasion, we watch our wedding video and in doing so we realize the changes twenty-five years have brought. The loss of my Mom and Jason’s Dad as well as aunts, uncles and friends. The growing of our three sons who are now 33, 31 and 25. Moving from our then home in the town of Mansonville to where we live now just a few kilometres away. The loss of hair, the dying of hair (there is a reason why a 25th anniversary is referred to as the “silver” celebration), the gaining of pounds and a wrinkle or ten.

We realize how fleeting time has been, cunningly sporting a cloak of invisibility as it dashed through Christmases, family vacations and momentous occasions taking with it moments we could not contain aside from tucking them into a memory bank for safe keeping and later reflection.

On Saturday, Aug. 12 some of our family and friends gathered, including most of the members of our wedding party and friends who drove all the way from Ottawa for a surprise afternoon barbecue held at my sister-in-law and her partners home. One of our ushers had penned a wonderful poem with the perfect blend of memories, emotion and humour that he read with perfection. Delicious food, anniversary decorations, cake and a beautiful tree

to plant in our back yard as a gift that will serve as a reminder of this momentous 25-year achievement.

*“Grow old along with me
Two branches of one tree
Face the setting sun
When the day is done
God bless our love
God bless our love”*

There is certainly an abundance of wisdom that comes from the passing of years. A lot of clarity and an honest appreciation for true friendships, gratitude for those who have supported and who continue to support and feeling blessed to have worked so hard as a couple and family to sustain something we value.

*“Grow old along with me
Whatever fate decrees
We will see it through
For our love is true
God bless our love
God bless our love”.*

The next 25 years are sure to bring more trials and triumphs. As long as our tree remains standing strong we can sustain and weather most any storm surrounded by the support and love of those who have brought us to where we are now. The roots of a love called “blue” run deep embedded in the hearts and souls of all it has touched.

Ben by Daniel Shelton

