

Veterinarian receives Emeritus Honour

Local veterinarian Dr. Carman Redmond has been honoured with the distinction of "member emeritus" by the College of Veterinarians of Ontario.

Dr. Redmond had continued to treat animals with his mobile vet service and also in his home office on a part-time basis after his "retirement" from his Shelburne-based practice. He was raised on the family farm at RR 1 Dundalk.

At age 80, he was probably among the most senior of practicing vets in the province, just as he was among the youngest at age 23 when he graduated in 1957 from the Ontario Veterinary College.

Dr. Redmond operated a mixed animal practice in Shelburne, which was about 90 percent large animals when he began, and about 90 percent small animals when he retired from full-time practice.

"Our clients were our friends," he recalled recently. "My wife, Helen has been my faithful assistant."

They both recalled instances from his long career "including when his car got stuck in the snow on the Third Line after a call and he didn't get it back for five days.

That was in the late 60s when there were no refrigeration units in the vehicles, said Mrs. Redmond, "but the bottles of medicine were cold enough " when he got the car back, the bottles had cracked open as they froze."

Dr. Redmond also recalled the time 25 or 30 hounds brought up by the Toronto Hunt Club to their Dufferin property had a close encounter with some porcupines. The dogs had to be sedated and the quills pulled. "We were knee deep in dogs," said Mrs. Redmond.

During a recent interview in a Shelburne restaurant, passers-by stopped by to greet the well-known vet.

One of them said generations of her family had used Carman's services. "There's people like me that appreciate the very generous things that he did for us over the years," said Ruth Cruikshank of Amaranth, who is a grandmother herself now, and remembers Dr. Redmond treating her father's farm animals.

The certificate from the College of Veterinarians states that it was given "in recognition of your significant contribution to the profession over the years."

Dr. and Mrs. Redmond have two children, Anna and Leonard, both married, and two grand-children