

Written By:

NICKOLAS FALLOON

ESSAY TOPIC

GRANDFATHER: KENNETH ELDEN FALLOON

AKA: PAPA

My Papa was born in Smeaton Saskatchewan in 1946. When he was just 2 years old his Father Clifford and Mother Thelma packed up their 3 children and moved them to Quesnel BC. On the first day they arrived in Quesnel it was a rainy Halloween night and they camped out right where the old Co-Op was located on 2 mile flat. Papa spent most of his teenage years living in West Quesnel. He attended the little white school house by Riverview School, then went on to attended Cariboo High.

When he was just 19 years old in 1965, Papa and Grandpa Great bought the Bouchie Lake Resort on Barker Road. I have heard many stories over the years of family reunions, high school graduations and weddings that happened on Bouchie Lake Resort. One story my Nana tells is how she was in charge of timing the kids on the trampoline making sure all the kids had equal time jumping around. Or how they would cut blocks of ice in the winter from the lake and store them for use in the summer. I remember Papa saying before buying the resort in his younger years they would ride their bikes out to the resort after a dance at The Old Bouchie Lake Hall and collect pop bottles along the way to the lake. Another is him telling me about when a runway would be ploughed on the lake for the sky divers club, they would land on the lake every weekend in the winter. One day a CAT operator was ploughing the runway, the ice broke away and the Cat went through the ice, Papa had to dive down and hook a winch cable to the sunken CAT and then pulled the machine out with his own CAT.

In 1969, Papa attended school in Chicago Illinois for road surveying. In June of 1969 my Nana (Wanda Catherine Barnes) flew to Chicago where they eloped and then came back to have their reception at the Resort in Bouchie Lake. They then started building Kenda Crescents Trailer Park across the road from the resort.

Papa and my Grandpa Great (Cliff Falloon) started many companies together, a construction Company called C. Falloon LTD. Where Papa was the first Cat Operator on the Nazko Road, he cleared all the road right of ways from Hayhill Road to Nazko. In the 1980's they sold the Bouchie Lake Resort and bought Quesnel Rentals now known as Eldorado Recreation LTD. and started a recreation and rental business where my Papa, Nana, Dad, Mom, myself and my brother work to this day.

In 2005 my Papa was elected as the CRD Director for Area B. He took on this roll because Bouchie Lake area has been a very important part of our families lives for many years. During his time as CRD Director he built the Bouchie – Milburn Community Park on the Corner of Blackwater Road.

From laying blocks to build the Bouchie Lake Hall to flattening the ground for the arena for the first Lacrosse team in Bouchie Lake, the stories of Bouchie Lake that I hear from Papa are never ending there is always another story to be told. Bouchie Lake is part of my heritage and the stories are told daily around the coffee pot at Eldorado and will be for many years to come.