

A Tribute to Lion Cecil Parsons, PDG



I'd like the memory of me
to be a happy one,
I'd like to leave an afterglow
of smiles when life is done.
I'd like to leave an echo
whispering softly down the ways,
of happy times and laughing times
and bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve,
to dry before the sun of happy memories
that I leave behind when day is done.
~ Author Unknown

Phyllis and I were shocked and deeply saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Past District Governor Lion Cecil. We have known Lion Cecil since he came to Greenspond in the spring of 1986 along with Lion Jim Comben, PDG Harry Harding and other members of the Badger's Quay Lions Club to form a Lions Club. He returned again in the fall of that year to celebrate our first Charter Anniversary. We have never forgotten him and the impact that he had on so many Lions.

It is very difficult to summarize the life and achievements of a highly successful and well accomplished Lion - one who served with passion and commitment just to put a smile on the faces of the less fortunate. A Lion who shared his personal resources and family without seeking benefits or favors in return - a Lion who never asked for reimbursement for his expenses in carrying out his obligations as a Lion - a Lion who shared his time with those in need and a part of his life for a cause he believed in and cherished.

His definition of Lions: An association of like minded persons for service to the less fortunate in our communities - the reward, a smile and joy of witnessing the happiness and true appreciation by the recipients.

Lion Cecil was a passionate and contagious, in the good sense of the world. Those who had the opportunity to meet and work with him or attended his schools of instruction would forever remember the fun, the inspiring presentations, his philosophy and vision of Lionism. His service has and will make

an impact on some one's life. Is that not why we are Lions? Lion Cecil's philosophy could probably be summed up in the words of an unknown author: "Work for a cause, not for applause. Live life to express, not to impress. Don't strive to make your presence noticed just make your absence felt." He made other members feel that just being a Lion was such a great achievement in their lives. He was very humble and never accepted credit but shared success with fellow Lions. Never the one to judge others but always seeking to understand them better (How do you get along with some of these guys?), was a question often asked of him.

As a Lion cognicent that humanitarian service extend beyond the boundaries of his own community, Lion Cecil demonstrated his generosity and concern for the less fortunate by getting involved with the Lion Max Simms Memorial Camp and the Quest Foundation . He championed the District Speakout and other school related events.

We, Lions of District N4, extend our sympathy to the family of Lion Cecil and the members of his Lions Club, the Conception Bay Lions Club, and we assure them of our respect, our esteem and our love to the great Lion they have lost.

We pray that Lion Cecil rests in peace and possesses the knowledge that he is missed and acclaimed by his fellow Lions in District N4 and especially by those who were fortunate to call him a friend. Also, on behalf of the Past District Governors of Lions District N4, I want to express our sincere condolences and deep sadness on Past District Governor Lion Cecil's passing.

Let me conclude with a brief poem by an unknown author:

Remember Me:

To the living, I am gone.

To the sorrowful, I will never return.

To the angry, I was cheated,

But to the happy, I am at peace,

And to the faithful, I have never left.

I cannot be seen, but I can be remembered.

So as you stand upon a shore, gazing at a beautiful sea - remember me.

As you look in awe at a mighty forest and its grand majesty - remember me.

As you look upon a flower and admire its simplicity - remember me.

Remember me in your heart, your thoughts, and your memories of the times we loved, the times we cried, the times we fought, the times we laughed.

For if you always think of me, I will have never gone.

GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU AT THIS TIME!!

Phyllis & Lion Herb Burry, PCC

My Fellow Lions,

At our Past District Governors Breakfast in Marystown on Saturday, October 21st, I read a handwritten note which I received from Debra and Gary Nagle, Mississauga, Ontario. Debbie is Lion Cecil and Lion Shirley's daughter. This note was in appreciation for [*A Tribute to Lion Cecil Parsons, PDG*](#) which I wrote on the sudden passing of Lion Cecil on July 13, 2017 and which 1st VDG Jennifer Hutchings so kindly read at the Family Service.

Our PDGs suggested I share the "*Tribute*" with you in our District Newsletter and on the Website for all to see. I also would like to post Debbie's response:

Mr. & Mrs. Burry,

Thank you for the incredible tribute you wrote for Dad. We appreciate the impression that Dad left with everyone he knew, especially fellow Lions. We are grateful that you provided us with something we can preserve with our memories,

Thank you for your very kind and thoughtful words.

Debbie & Gary

Yours in Lionism,

Lion Herb