

Dedication

This book is dedicated to all the important people in my life, and even those that have touched my life in one way or another, whether it be friends, acquaintances, co-workers, relatives, etc., especially in my times of struggles and hurdles, as I continue my disabling battle against my toughest opponent, depression. These poems express my true feelings and thoughts to the best of my ability. I dedicate this book to the three most important people in my life, my father Kal, my mother Florence, and my younger brother Eric. I also dedicate this book to the staff of the United Way, for their friendship and support over the years, with whom I was an office support volunteer, such wonderful people to work with. Last, but not least, this dedication goes out to two acquaintances I've made along the way, Amber Peterson and Ian Clara, for their friendship and support, thanks to both of you as well. May life be kind to everyone out there, all my best.

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Please visit my website as well. Lastly, I graciously acknowledge the assistance of Xlibris Book Publishing in the production and design layout of this book, thank you all in this endeavor, I look forward to working with you in the future.

September 11th / A Day like No Other!

*As 9/11/01 broke through,
What was to occur no one knew,
All of a sudden, hell on earth;
The Towers were hit, leaving a huge girth.
Day became night, as each Tower then fell,
Shocking the world with this holy hell,
America was under attack as never before;
Terrorism had shown its ugly face--war!
The innocent and the frightened,
New York's strength had to be heightened!
Lives lost, spirit gained,
This true horror was real and strained.
Heroes were made, victims were counted;
The devastation was intense, the deaths mounted.
When Mr. Bush entered Ground Zero,
All the rescue workers made him their hero.
Life goes on, memories don't fade;
Hope springs eternal and progress is made.
We will never forget December 7th,
The world will never forget September 11th!*



A Finnish Tradition

*Since I was a very young boy,
Always relaxing in the steam which I do enjoy,
Until I get too hot and need to step out,
Numbing myself in the lake as the sun shines about,
As I feel rejuvenated I'm more alive than ever without a doubt!*



This Country

*Circa 1867 this nation was officially formed,
Amidst its glory has been this unnecessary cultural storm,
Nevertheless it's still the best place on Earth to be,
Always and forever for myself and my family,
Decked out R.C.M.P. officers in uniform symbolize in part just who we are,
At peace with the world from near and afar!*



A True Icon and Hero

*Thirty years ago he did maybe what no one else could,
Electing to run across the nation for cancer as he would,
Raising millions of dollars for vital disease research,
Realizing a dream upon which a pedestal he deserved to perch,
Young of age and heart yet full of unbridled courage and so brave,
Fighting until the very end when his lungs too finally gave,
Only a cure has not yet been found,
Xtraordinary man whose legacy will forever resound!*



An Olympic-Sized Tribute!

*Victories achieved and dreams fulfilled,
Athletes becoming friends and spreading good will,
Never a dull moment with the tears and extreme thrill,
Canada should be and is so proud,
Owning the golden podium and cheering out loud,
Up at Whistler as well stood many a crowd,
Volunteers from west to east helping as much as they could,
Everyone at peace competing fairly as they should,
Russia in 2014 has a tough act to follow amongst the universal brother and sister hood!*

Published in 2010, The Poetry Institute of Canada, Victoria, B.C., Canada.



Falls for you



Known as the "Niagara of the North,"
All eyes gazing upon it plus back and forth,
Knowing my fear of heights I tread lightly,
As the water cascades over the cliffs I'm amazed by what I see,
Beautifully marked trails wind through the park as well,
Everyone has a story of their own to tell,
Kneeling down to get a great camera shot,
And forever I'll remember this majestic wonderful spot!





A Romantic Language



Favorite of mine next to English,
Really having the tongue for it and enjoying a gourmet dish,
Every word and sound has its own flair,
Nothing sounds like a bonbon et éclair,
Crepes are very flat pancakes,
Here ye to la Française as such a lovely langue does it make!





America's Pastime



Target Field is now where they play,
World Series champs twice along the way,
Indicative of their success back in the day,
Nestled in Minnesota's Twin Cities,
Such sports teams there have had their fair share of defeats and victories!





Canada's Other Winter Passion



Canada's other famous game,
Unique and filled with champions with unforgettable names,
Really anyone at any age can play it,
Loving the ice and respecting your opponent make it a perfect fit,
It's a sport like no other,
Nail-biting at times among teammates including even someone like your brother,
Great times in the Brier Patch have been had throughout the years by one another!





Global Warming



*This has become a worldwide epidemic,
We are guilty of this planet getting sick,
Governments are getting in on the act,
All of us trying to lessen the impact,
Future generations are now under the gun,
Earth and its riches underneath the sun,
The Kyoto Protocol was supposedly the beginning,
Harper signed and perhaps created a momentum swing,
Other countries still have yet to buy in,
We're responsible for perhaps our greatest sin,
Our environment consumes our entire fragile existence,
The 3 R's and greenhouse gases reduced with due diligence,
My hope is that the damage isn't permanent,
Let's save our planet with continued grueling intent!*

Published in 2011, The Ontario Poetry Society, Toronto, ON, Canada.





Feelings



Everyone has them and controlling each one is key,
Makes for healthier lives for you and me,
Opening up to someone is vital,
Telling yourself how to cope may cause denial,
It's a part of us that is required,
Outwardly not feeling anything could be dire,
Needing a friend or companion that will listen to you,
Something to think about as life can be cruel!





A National Obsession

*Here's to our country's passion,
Our game in all its "gold"-en celebration,
Chasing down the Soviets and communism in 1972,
Knowing we're still the best on the ice then and now is what we choose to do,
Every winter rink played on to a tee,
Yesterday and forever eh will this great sport and nation come together as one with glee!*

Me

*Making my way through life has been good and bad,
Always remembering the fun times that I had,
Realizing one's journey can be tough,
Climbing from the lows and obscurity can also be rough,
Wayne is my famous middle name,
Many like Gretzky and Cashman played their own game,
Underneath it all is a great shy middle aged man,
Loving to write plus going to camp and just doing the best I can,
Limited in my ability to do certain things,
Opening up to others is still hard although I'm trying to spread my wings!*



Our American Friends

*Down south is our friendly neighbor,
Unlike some other cities the images endure,
Lutsen is right along the highway,
Unless you're not a skier then come what may,
This place has always been a favorite of mine,
Hovering over Lake Superior in Minnesota suits me just fine!*



Midwest Majesty

*Making your way down Highway 61,
Is a beautiful state of 10000 lakes and loads of fun,
Nestled beside that huge mighty lake,
No time of year is complete without a visit here to explore this scenic rugged escape,
Easily one of my favourite spots,
Seasons changing from very cold to very hot,
Offering a choice of everything from golf to skiing so why not,
Tourists and residents alike obviously agree,
Always worth your while to come for a stay and enjoy some local American hospitality!*

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