

Burnie Thorp – Bio

Sketch since 1964

After leaving St. Mary's in 1964, I attended another St. Mary's in the Sault where I completed high school in 1965.

I attended the University of Windsor and graduated with a general degree in economics in 1968. Bryon Hurre attended Windsor at the same time and we continued our close friendship from our Brockville days.

In 1968, I married Marie Delavalle of the Sault. We moved to Vancouver where I attended UBC intent on getting an MA in economics. However that didn't come to fruition and we moved back to the Sault where I taught elementary school for six months. Marie was a teacher and she taught as well. She is now a partner in a catering company.

In the summer of 1969, we moved to Windsor where I took a second and again unsuccessful try at getting an MA. This time I at least finished the make-up year.

In March of 1970, our daughter Marnie was born. She now lives in Vancouver with her daughter Isobel who was born in February this year. Marnie is communications specialist for CUPW. Our son David was born in the Sault in December 1974. David lives in London where he is working on his doctorate in kinesiology at Western.

In 1972, we moved back to the Sault where I had taken a job in the accounting department at Algoma Steel. I have worked for Algoma ever since – 16 years in accounting, 4 in Utilities and the last 11 in the Employee Benefits section of Human Resources where I am the supervisor.

Those elocution classes with Fr. Bill O'Flaherty and listening to so many great speakers at St. Mary's have been put to good use as a reader in my parish and as a trainer of readers throughout the Sault and area.

Over the years, I have done volunteer work with Junior Achievement, the VON and in my parish.

I stay active by cycling, cross-country skiing and some pickup hockey.

My years at St. Mary's provided me with a solid foundation upon which I have based my life since. That foundation was built not just by the staff but also by my fellow students and I am truly grateful to all of you. I have often thought about a reunion and am so glad that a group has come together to get this done. I am really looking forward to July 11 - 13.