

May 20, 2011

Dear Chuck,

I had written down some words to say about Gord at the service, but decided not to as Larry, Pippa, and the others were so very eloquent that they were an impossible act to follow. So, anyhow, here is what I wrote, but didn't share.

Horse people have a term to describe a big, strong, good looking horse with "presence" that stands out in a crowd—we talk about a horse that "fills the eye".

Gord "filled the eye". He was also a true gentleman – gentle, polite, and a considerate and accomplished host.

Gord appeared, for 15 years, every weekday morning at the barn, at 6:30 am sharp. He cleaned stalls, and fed and watered the horses. He was 100% reliable, and cared deeply and truly for the horses' welfare. After his surgery, he came down to visit the horses several times, and they were delighted to see him. Horses sense when a person is true.

I would be astonished if you could find a single person anywhere who had even one bad thing to say about Gordon. His was a fine example of a well lived life—friendly, honest, helpful, never a gossip. Best of all was his sense of humour. Sometimes he would get a little too *close*, and I would go "hey Gord..!" "Hay for the horses" he would bellow, followed by his trademark infectious laugh... "HAW HAW HAW!" I really loved that guy.

You were the most amazing father a kid could have. You gave Gord freedom, instilled self discipline, and nurtured his self confidence and sense of dignity. Gord was a role model for all of us for a life lived with caring and integrity.

Chuck, I want you to know that Gordon's presence was a wonderful gift to our community here in Southlands. I will miss him so so much. And here are a few photos from today ... with love, Jen Maynard



This was his memorial service, hundreds came, all walks of life, a very influential man, honest and true, much loved.