

Cliff Yetman

Cliff Yetman was born April 8th, 1949 to Cliff and Flora Yetman of Bay Roberts. He has three younger sisters, Myra, Joy, and Annette. Growing up in the 1950's and 60's, much of his time was spent playing softball and hockey. He was also a member of the Salvation Army Band.

His early quasi military training was as a member of the Army Cadet Corps at the old Amalgamated School, and he has vivid memories of the Saturday morning rifle practice in the small gymnasium at the school. In 1968, two weeks after his 19th birthday, he left for training at the RCMP Academy in Regina, Saskatchewan. After three months there, he completed his RCMP training at the Canadian Forces Base in Penhold, Alberta.

His first posting was in Ottawa, where he was assigned to the Parliament Hill detail, the Governor General's detail, and finally to the Prime Minister's detail. He remembers standing under the Peace Tower on July 20th, 1969, looking up at a bright moon, and getting simultaneous reports of the first moon landing.

In December of 1969 he transferred to Alberton, P.E.I., then to Charlottetown Highway Patrol and Summerside Detachment. In 1975, he transferred to Corner Brook City, and also served at St. Georges, Barachois Brook, Baie Verte, and as Corporal in charge of Carmanville Detachment before taking over as the Sergeant in charge of Bay Roberts Detachment in November of 1990. Cliff retired from the Force in June of 2003 after completing 35 years of service.

Aside from the many years as N.C.O. of his own units, he has many fond memories of his 9-month stint as a member of the Canadian Contingent of the United Nations Mission in the former Yugoslavian Republic of Kosovo, where he served for three months as a Police Field Training Officer in the capital city of Pristina, then a 6-month term as Deputy Station Commander of a mixed Serbian/Albanian Station in Kosovo Polje/Fushe Kosove. He recalls the cultural and operational challenges as well as the rewards and educational benefits of working with both Police and Military personnel from 52 countries, as well as the opportunity to see Europe and visit Switzerland, Serbia, Austria, Hungary, Germany, Slovenia, Macedonia, and Greece.

Following his retirement from the RCMP, he spent five years as an Investigator with the Public Service Commission, a branch of the Provincial Government. He muses that he is probably the only person who has worked for the Federal Government, Provincial Government, United Nations, and has even done a couple of Municipal Government contracts.

Cliff married Susan French of Coley's Point in 1973, and together they have raised four children, Lori, Susan, Kristy, and Scott. They have two grandchildren, Samuel, and Charlize, and still live in Bay Roberts.