

OBITUARY - EUGÈNE (GENE) MARCIL

Jeweller championed francophone culture

BY SUSAN MCCLELLAND

Eugène (Gene) Marcil, a founding member of Club Richelieu Ottawa who spent his life campaigning for children's charities and the promotion of francophone culture, died Saturday at age 89.

Growing out of the Richelieu Society, the club was formed 54 years ago by 17 Ottawans as a francophone-service organization to support low-income children and families in Ottawa.

As a member of the club, Mr. Marcil vigorously raised money for Ot-

tawa families by selling peanuts door to door and through hosting weekly bingo games.

The Richelieu Club that Mr. Marcil helped form has spawned 300 chapters in 10 countries with about 7,000 members. Combined, the chapters raise about \$3.5 million annually to help children's charities.

"We are very proud of his accomplishments," said Mr. Marcil's son Bernard, who belongs to a club chapter in Gloucester. "The club has come along way."

Born Eugène George Marcil in Ottawa on Nov. 10, 1908, he attended

school at Guigues in Lowertown and then immediately apprenticed as a watchmaker on Sparks Street.

In 1925, he and his elder brother Edgar Marcil opened their own jewellery store — Marcil Brothers Jewellers, on Dalhousie Street. In 1974, the two brothers retired from the business and Mr. Marcil spent the remainder of his life volunteering with the club and as a member of the Institut Canadien-Français.

Mr. Marcil's life as a shopkeeper was documented in the National Film Board's production *Son of the Jeweller*, a film on his son Bernard

Marcil as part of a series on Ontario francophones.

Mr. Marcil, who dedicated his life to the Richelieu organization's causes, will be buried wearing the club's special 50th-anniversary pin.

Mr. Marcil is predeceased by his wife, Yvette Miron.

He is survived by his daughters, Michèle, Francine, Josette, and his son, Bernard.

A funeral service will be held tomorrow at noon at Saint-Gabriel Church, 55 Appleford St., Gloucester, followed by interment at Notre-Dame Cemetery.



Eugène Marcil was a founding member of Richelieu Club.

Used car dealer defends need for early brake work

I think we have been taken by one of the area's largest used car dealers.

In April my husband and I leased a 1996 GMC Jimmy from CarCanada. When we picked up the vehicle we were told that it had been through a thorough inspection prior to its delivery to us. We were even given a document attesting to that.

The truck worked fine for about four months, until July 20 when I noticed a great deal of squealing and the smell of burning rubber coming from under the truck.

I made an appointment at a local garage and after the vehicle was inspected the mechanic told me the problem was with the brake on the front passenger side. There was hardly any pad left.

He then showed me that the brake pad on the driver's side was also badly worn and suggested it should be replaced, as well.

After I told the mechanic that the Jimmy had only been driven about 5,000 km since it was leased he suggested I contact CarCanada because he didn't feel the brakes should have worn that much in such a short time.

He did the work, which included replacing the pads, machining the rotors and servicing the calipers. It cost me \$286.23.

After the work was done I called CarCanada and spoke to a manager who told me he gets calls like mine all of the time. That concerned me and triggered the thought that they must have problems with brake inspections there if calls are always coming in.

The manager then proceeded to tell me that brakes and rotors are part of the inspection program and he would have to check what was indicated when the Jimmy was done. I was later told by someone in the service department that the brakes and rotors were well within specifications when they were inspected in April.

A meeting was set up during which a mechanic measured the wear on the brakes. He agreed that there was a problem and that's when I was told the dealership would pick up the cost of the repairs.

The story soon changed, however. A short time later I received a call during which the offer to pay the full cost dropped to paying \$60. The store figured I could have taken the Jimmy there and the price would have been cheaper.

I was outraged at the offer. As far as I am aware the brakes weren't inspected properly at the beginning and now the store wants me to pay the lion's share.

Then, to make matters worse I have yet to see a



Action Line
Tony Cote

cent of the \$60 and it has been several weeks since the offer was made. It seems they are just ignoring us.

Kim Wilkinson-Smith, Stittsville

A better deal was not only reached, it has been concluded with a cheque.

David McDonnell, the store's controller, and Calvin Peters, the general manager, met with you and your husband shortly after learning about the

dispute.

The upshot was agreement to reimburse half the cost of the repairs on the brakes, about \$123. You have the cheque.

But before the deal was reached, Mr. McDonnell told me that there was a general discussion during which certain earlier comments were clarified and the inspection process explained in detail.

The noise you heard, for instance, is an indicator built into the brakes to warn drivers that they need work. As Mr. McDonnell pointed out, that indicator didn't make itself heard until 5,000 km after his people inspected the brakes. That, he said, clearly showed the brakes were within specifications in April.

The comment about CarCanada receiving regular complaints about its servicing was taken out of context, the controller said.

"Other establishments find it incumbent on themselves to criticize the quality of repairs at CarCanada to make themselves appear in a better light in an effort to sell unnecessary repair work," he said.

That, however, wasn't the case with your vehicle. The work was necessary in July but not in April, said the company official.

He agreed that things could have been handled more efficiently at his end once the problems were brought to the store's attention. "Our communication could have been better," is how he put it.

And while he would have preferred that his shop had had a chance to do the repair work he realized that the safety of your family was paramount and prudence called for you to get to the nearest garage.

Call Tony Côté, 596-3737, 9 a.m. to noon weekdays, or write: The Ottawa Citizen, Box 5020, Ottawa K2C 3M4. Fax: 726-1198. E-mail: tcote@thecitizen.southam.ca. Send photocopies of documents. Letters cannot be acknowledged.

spot run

An in-depth study on the state of education in Canada. All this week on CPAC.

www.cpac.ca

CPAC Funded by cable. Rogers cable 24 (English) • Rogers cable 67 (French)

Air Duct Cleaning

Whole House Package - Hurry, call now!

\$139 WHOLE HOUSE PACKAGE*

Includes unlimited vents and main duct.

Benefits:

- Duct cleaning helps relieve symptoms of allergies, asthma and respiratory discomfort by removing indoor airborne irritants such as dirt, dust, animal dander and pollen.

Process:

- Industrial grade equipment brush vacuums the air ducts and vents.
- Our equipment is fitted with highly efficient HEPA filters to trap particles as small as 1/300" of a human hair and to filter out 99.97% of dust and dirt.

CALL MONDAY - SATURDAY 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

744-4119

HOME SERVICES

*For single furnace systems. Extra Charge for access doors and cooling coils, where applicable. Residential orders only.

© Copyright 1998 Hudson's Bay Company

Alzheimer Society of Ottawa-Carleton
has family support counsellors to offer support, guidance, advice and information.
Call 722-1424 for more information

Choose your own fabric from our vast selection and have your customized chair delivered in 4 weeks

Johnson's
111 Murray St. 241-1800
Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30, Sat. 9:30-5:00
FREE PARKING
2303 STEVENAGE DR. 736-7000
Mon. - Fri. 9-5
www.johnsonsfurniture.com
FREE Delivery on orders over \$200 in Ottawa/Hall
Toll Free 1-888-870-5572

To avoid back pain take as directed

Gusto

Affordable Gusto features ergonomics for a variety of applications. Back height can be customized for individual lumbar support. Seat and back angle adjust independently and lock in any position. Forward tilt makes the Gusto perfect for computer intensive tasks.

Black Burgundy Navy Blue \$309 #2992

ObusForme

Canada's best selling ergonomic chair exclusively endorsed by the Canadian Chiropractic Association.

Features:
~Tilt tension
~Forward-tilt control
~Multi-tilt control
~Seat height adjustment
~Back angle adjustment
~Back height adjustment

Black Grey \$499 #4430

Chatham

Mid back multi-tilter task chair with pneumatic height adjustment.

Other features include:
Tilt lock control
Forward tilt control
Free floating back angle adjustment
Back height adjustment

Blue Black Burgundy Grey \$369 #8385

Produced by: **THE SENIORS**

with M.C. Gord Atkinson

THE GREAT CANADIAN MATURITY AND TRAVEL SHOWS

CANADA'S LARGEST CONSUMER SHOW FOR PEOPLE 50+

OVER 130 BOOTHS

- Healthy Living Showcase plus Lifestyle Seminars, Travel Videos, Finance, Leisure, Housing & more.
- DOOR PRIZES. Win a Caribbean Cruise for 2 from Norwegian CruiseLine & Captain Sandy's Cruise Holidays.

FREE ADMISSION
FREE WEDNESDAY
Courtesy of

FREE THURSDAY
Courtesy of Burkholder Furs

First 200 Early Birds receive:

- Birthday Cake & Coffee
- Tulip Bulb Package

Direct from Branson, Missouri

OTTAWA VALLEY'S OWN **RONNIE PROPHET**
Performing both days

JERRY WHITE
Canadian Author & Financial Guru on our main stage

ROGER McCOMBE
Humour in Life Presentation

MARY COOK
on our main stage

HEALTHY LIVING SHOWCASE sponsored by Bayer

FREE PARK & RIDE
Take the FREE Shuttle Bus from the northeast corner of Lansdowne Cattle Castle to the Congress Centre 8-4 daily.

Free Shuttle sponsored by **AT&T**
A proud co-sponsor **CJOH**

SPONSORED BY MEDIPAC INTERNATIONAL & CANADIAN SNOWBIRD ASSOC.

OTTAWA CONGRESS CENTRE
Wednesday & Thursday, October 14 & 15, 9 AM-4 PM