



The Overy Papers

Number 27 - A Short Paper on Dedication

Fraternal Greetings Brethren,

Last Night was our District Deputy Grand Masters RWB. Rick Hunter's first official visit to Ionic Kent Lodge in Chilliwack. I gave a lift to VWBro. Con Neudorf and VWBro. Ed Cichanovich.

I would like to mention three things about last night.

It was obvious that VWBro Con was not feeling too good but he said he wanted to go even if he did not stay long. When we got there he took longer to get prepared than usual and went into lodge before the suite formed, taking a cup of water, well he said it was water.

We entered as usual and when his name was called he stood and greeted the DDGM. It was then I realized that another Masonic "Senior", RWBro Malcolm Johnson from Pacific Lodge, had also entered early and stood as his name was called. He was sitting near me and I heard him answer to a question that I did not hear and these may not be the actual words, "I don't need any notes if I do not know it now it is too bad anyway as I think this is my last time. I assume he was going to give his recitation to the Apron as usual and it would be the last time.

Another senior Member there last night was RWBro. Don Birdsel of Ionic Kent who I understand showed distinction of the rendering of the Charge. I should be so good today let alone when I am 90.

What was amazing was the dedication of these three. As I said to the DDGM later "if our entire District had only shown the same dedication we probably would not have got a seat". He said "I wish I had another 100 members with their dedication."

To me they epitomised the true meaning of Freemasonry, thank you brothers for the lesson you gave me.

The third thing was personal. As I listened to the introduction of the DDGM it gave his date of birth. I realized when he was a 10 year old school boy I was in the RAF and had already completed two sessions of active service one in the

Radfan campaign in Southern Yemen and the other in Kuwait during Operation Vantage that was the start of the first Kuwait/Iraq conflict, I was married and my daughter was on the way.

Brothers, I think I am getting Old.

Thank you and whatever I say may we continue in peace and harmony.

Bro. Bill Overy

Member of the Education Committee of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon.