



## Worthy of honor

Of all the men in the area none deserved being honored more than Wilfred Johnston, and thanks to the foresight and initiative of West Lorne Kiwanians it happened suitably Saturday night at the International Club where 385 friends attended.

Two years ago the club initially honored Earl Lemon for all he had done for the village and community. Finding a third candidate may prove difficult if Ki-

wanians intend perpetuating the idea.

In some larger centres Man of the Year honors are bestowed on those who have added immeasurably to the community. And this can be perpetuated in larger centres because there are more potential candidates. In the majority of towns and villages no one is honoured for two reasons. Firstly, because of the chance of some worthy person being overlooked, and no one starts

such an exercise because of the risk of his turn never coming.

But West Lorne Kiwanians not only put aside any reasons for such criticism or lack of initiative, and have made wise choices in the men they realize should be honored.

Mr. Lemon received his honors for many reasons over a lifetime of service. Mr. Johnston was given similar honors for his contributions over 35 years.

He had the advantage as a teacher of touching many lives, first as a continuation school teacher and principal, as a high school teacher, guidance officer and latterly vice-principal, simultaneously as a man interested in otherwise giving youth excellent training to play the game of life.

There not likely is one for whom he did not have a nickname, the resulting camaraderie students appreciated.

Outside school his lightheartedness was experienced by everyone he knew.

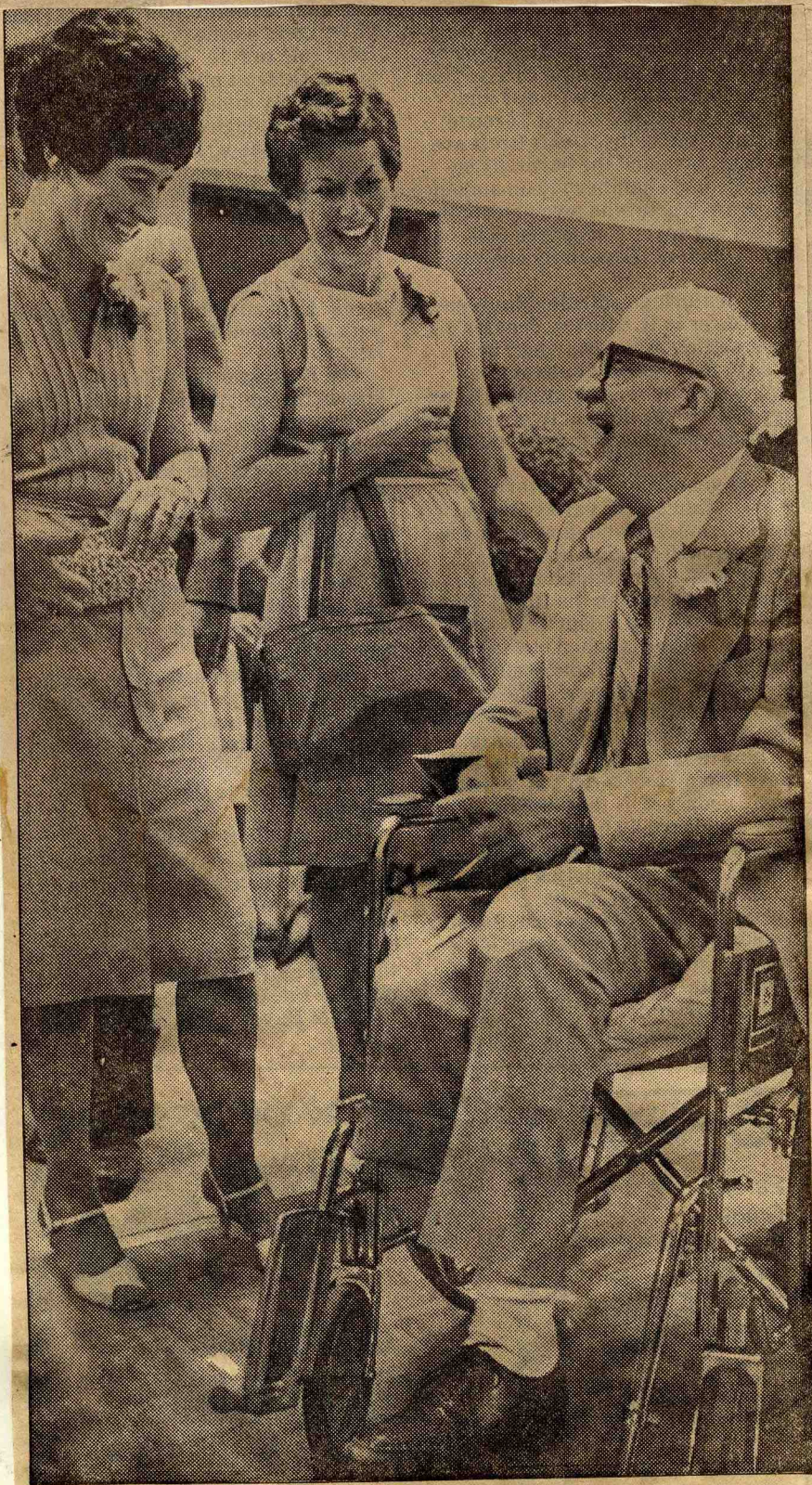
While admittedly to be no great sport, he knew how to coach young people to become good sports, winners and champions. In the main, he used the same techniques as at school. All who played under him gave their best and only have good to say about him.

And this is also the case with adults he associated with in teaching staffs, the Legion, Knights of Columbus, St. Mary's Church, etc.

Personally, yours truly will always be grateful for Wilf offering to write a sports column for The West Lorne Sun when it started up again over 30 years ago.

His inimitable style was enjoyed by readers, because it had the unmistakable touch of Wilfred Johnston. Every Thursday morning "Looking at Sports" by Wilf appeared, reviewing the week's ball or hockey games. Not only did he keep everyone well informed about the town's sport scene, he made The Sun just that much better community newspaper, for which readers, and yours truly, were grateful.

Thanks Wilf for all you have done for the community, on behalf of all those who were unable to attend Wilf Johnston Night!



By Ken Wightman of The Free Press

### Happy reunion

Wilf Johnston, retired vice-principal of West Elgin Secondary School in West Lorne, shares a joke with school secretaries Doris Gilkes, left, and Lorna King at an appreciation night Saturday. About 400 well-wishers shared memories with the 70-year-old Johnston, who has had a life-long interest in community work with youngsters. Johnston is a diabetic who has lost both legs to gangrene.



Thursday, June 5th, 1986

## Wilfred Johnston vice-principal of WESS, passes

Wilfred C. Johnston, 74, of West Lorne, a former West Lorne continuation school principal, and vice-principal of WESS, died in St. Thomas-Elgin General Hosp.

Born in Glanworth, he moved to West Lorne in 1945. He taught school at Fingal prior to World War II.

He was an active member of St. Mary's Roman Catholic church, a charter member of the Knights of Columbus, a charter member and past president of the Kiwanis Club, a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 221, having served overseas with the RCAF, and was also a past president of the Ontario Baseball Association.

Mr. Johnston is survived by his wife, Audrey (Sutherland); a son Eric; daughter Mrs. John D. (Barbara) Campbell; and seven grandchildren, all of West Lorne; a brother, Stanley, of London; and two sisters: Mrs. Winnifred McIndoe, of Bala, Ont., and Mrs. Irene Smith, of London. A sister Genevieve, died previously.

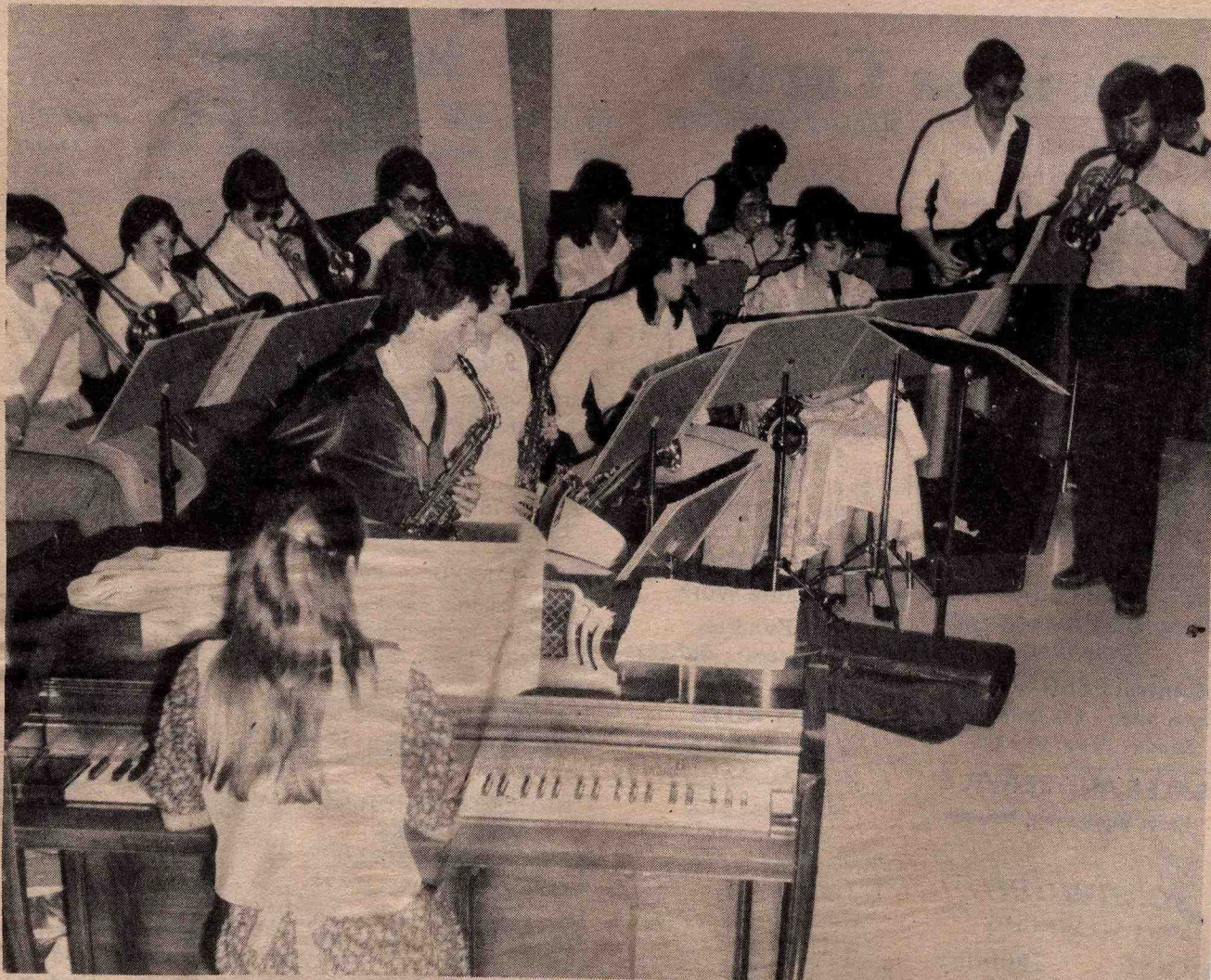
Visitation was at Padfield Funeral Home, West Lorne, until Saturday when the funeral mass was celebrated at St. Mary's Church at 11 a.m., Father E. A. Morris officiating. Interment was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Prayers were offered Friday evening when the Knights of Columbus and the Legion held memorial services.

Remembrances may be made to the Diabetes Association.

Pallbearers were: Bruce Rose, Peter Ayling, Gary Jamieson, Harry Vergeer, Harry VanDyk and Frayne Sercombe.

Honorary pallbearers were: Norman Rose, George Lippold, Henry Shaeken, George Bell, Frank Bolger and George Taylor.



WESS' JAZZ ENSEMBLE ENTERTAINED at Wilf Johnston Night after the meal and before the program. For grade 13 students it was one of their

last appearances with the group. "Woodchopper's Ball," and "Lara's Thene," were two well known and much appreciated numbers. In fact,

Kiwanis President Fred Lawley requested a second chorus of Woodchopper's Ball, which had everyone's foot tapping.



# *Audrey Johnston Appreciation night held with 120 attending*

Liberal party workers and friends held an appreciation night for Audrey Johnston at the Elgin International Club Friday. Over 120 attended from Aylmer to Chatham, to show their thanks to Audrey and to hear Joan Smith MPP from South London, speak.

Jim McGuigan, MPP, introduced the speaker, who is Chief Party Whip and Deputy House Leader for the Liberals at Queen's Park.

## **PRESENTATION OFFICE**

Jim also gave his personal thanks to Audrey and made a presentation of a Marie Spence print, "The Old Saugeen Mill", to her on behalf of the audience.

Mr. McGuigan thanked Dunwich and Aldborough for support received the past 10 years that he has represented them and the people of Kent.

In the next provincial election, which could come as soon as the end of June, his riding will no longer include Aldborough and Dunwich. They will rejoin Elgin.

Jim pointed out that Audrey operates the first constituency office opened in Elgin for any party.

Greetings to Aldborough

and Dunwich were delivered by Jim Edwards, President of the Kent-Elgin Liberal Association and from Marietta Roberts, President of

the new Elgin Provincial Liberal Association.

Bob Campbell, organizer of the evening, was chairman.



AUDREY JOHNSTON AND LONDON SOUTH MPP JOAN Smith enjoyed Friday's Appreciation-Night for the former in the International Club, where Mrs. Johnston was honored for her years of work for the Liberal party, and Mrs. Smith was the guest speaker.



# Audrey Johnston appreciation night speaker London S. MPP

The Elgin Provincial Liberal Association and Jim McGuigan, MPP Kent-Elgin, are hosting a dinner evening with Joan Smith, Chief Government whip and Deputy House Leader, to express appreciation to Audrey Johnston and a general salute to women in politics. Audrey is a tireless worker for the party, in West Elgin, which will be reunited with the rest of Elgin in the next provincial election.

The event is being held at the Elgin International Club Friday, March 6th. Reception will be at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7. See advertisement elsewhere in this paper for information on obtaining tickets.

Joan Smith, the feature, is another remarkable woman who has become one of the senior political leaders in Ontario.

Born in Calgary, she travelled a lot as a child because her father was in the army. However, the majority of her younger years were spent in London. She attended the University of Toronto, where she majored in philosophy and English. Joan met Don Smith when she was 20 and within the next year graduated, married and had her first baby. They lived in South London for the next 21 years where they raised a family of seven.

Even during this busy period of her life she found time for community work, her initial involvement being with Children's Aid, the United Way, and public housing.

Through the years her involvement widened to encompass a wide range of

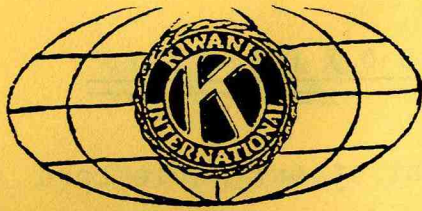
community services. For example, she served on the Board of Governors of the University of Western Ontario, the Board of Directors of the Regional Art Gallery, and was Founding president of London's Madame Vanier Children's Services. During the mid-70's she helped in the resettlement of South-east Asian refugees.

In the Autumn of 1984 she agreed to run provincially for the Liberals. Campaigning tirelessly she covered the riding twice and defeated the incumbent, Gordon Walker, by 8598 votes.

Her time is now divided between her home riding and her duties at Queen's Park. She still has time for concerns of a wider nature. On March 13 she is joining an all-party group of MPP's on a visit to Nicaragua to obtain first hand knowledge and impressions of what is

going on there. All members of the party are paying their own way.





Kiwanis Club  
of  
West Lorne

*honors*

*Rev*

*Norman Schlarbaum*

*of the*

*Rodney*

*&*

*West Lorne*

*Baptist Church*

*February 12th*

*1987*