



Geno Romanow Legacy Fund

Geno grew up in Dauphin Manitoba and moved to Portage la Prairie in the early 60's, working with the Trans Canada Pipelines, until his retirement in 1998. Over the years, he was offered other positions, to move across Canada, BUT Portage was Geno's home, and he was not going to leave it, especially when it came to his Terriers!

It was during the 73/74 Centennial Cup Championship that Geno fell in love with hockey. The following year, he became involved with the Portage Terriers organization as a board member, and with the Junior B Terriers. This is where he quickly picked up the skills of being an equipment manager. Geno could never remember exactly what year he moved up to the junior A's but his first coach was Abe McDonald. For over 40+ seasons, he crafted his skill of skate sharpening, and being able to have eyes in the back of his head when it came to sticks, actually any of the equipment. Geno had his spot on the bench, you could always count on him being there, and over the years has been hit by pucks, and sticks and had the marks to prove it.

When the team moved to Stride Place, Geno helped design the new Terrier Dressing Room, which was nicknamed, "Geno's Country Club" because you could always find someone, either players, coaches, refs, or friends and family, in there visiting with him. Geno used to be known as the father figure on the team, players would confide in him and he always looked after "his boys." Over the years he was then known as a grandfather figure, aka Grandpa Geno. Geno even learned how to text so that "his boys" would be able to get a hold of him. There is a special bond between all who played for the Portage Terriers and Geno, he would do anything for "his boys." They drove him nuts at times, but he was always there for them no matter what and was always their biggest cheerleader.

After players graduated from the team, they would always come back to Portage and head over to the dressing room to find Geno. It was a special time when Terrier Alumni would bring their kids to the dressing room to meet Geno, even get a picture or two. Looking back on his years with the team, he has gone through generations where Father and Son have been on the team while Geno was there.

Geno was always working on something, to find ways to make equipment work, or how to make the dressing room more user friendly. He made sure the coaches, the players and himself had everything they needed, this was important to him and the reason for the Geno Romanow Legacy Fund.

Geno always used to say when he was gone no one would remember him. However, the The Geno Romanow Legacy fund will ensure his memory, and his determination to always make sure the team had the proper equipment and dressing room needs were met, will live on forever. The investment income earned from this fund will be used to purchase equipment and/or provide updates to the Portage Terriers dressing room. Even though Geno is no longer with us, he will always remain a part of the Portage Terriers legacy. His dedication and loyalty over 40 seasons is a testament to who the man he was and to what the team and game meant to him.

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