

Sketch of a West Pointer – Ray Dujardin

Ray Dujardin had a stellar career in the mining industry. He began as a geologist exploring for minerals and then graduated to engineering when he achieved his standing as a Professional Engineer. He specialized in economic assessment and conceptual design of new mining projects, especially those up for purchase. He worked mostly for mining companies and then as a consultant, as an Associate of AMEC (formerly Simons Engineering) in Vancouver. His employment took him to many areas of the world.

Ray was born in Bagshot, Surrey, England and has resided in Kingston and Surbiton in Surrey, England; New Amsterdam, Georgetown and Bartica in Guyana (then British Guiana); Santiago, Chile; Toronto; Arklow, Ireland; and travelled on many field trips throughout South America, Spain, Canada, USA, Ireland and more.

Golfing began in Toronto in the 1960s, playing at public courses north of the city, on weekends. Ray recalls that all he could afford was an assortment of used clubs, including Canadian Tire specials, put together in an ancient golf bag. As many others did, he turned to golf after watching Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Gary Player and other household names on television. Golf was also a way to catch up with old friends after spending so much time away from home on field trips. He gave up golf from 1982 to 2000 to pursue his passion for sailing, photography and squash. Ray has taken countless photos for the West Point Golf Club since he joined in 2002; he and his camera have been fixtures at our AGM for years, recording winners for the archives!

Ray once played to a modest 18 handicap; his boss told him, “You will never amount to much of a golfer because you’re too temperamental.” Can you imagine that? Ray remembers vividly the hole-in-one he recorded during a West Point away game at Kings Links a few years ago. It was the final par 3 and his foursome took the allotted time to search for his ball – only to discover it in the cup. It was a wonderful feeling that he will not forget, and he has the Club souvenir on display. A second great moment in his golfing career occurred in 2013 at Fraserview, when he holed out on the beautiful 18th hole from 140 yards out! It was in a best ball team event, a crowd was watching from the patio and, as I recall, everyone went wild. His teammates were ecstatic. Ray was just recovering from his first knee surgery at the time, which made the shot even more satisfying! Ray has enjoyed golfing in the Carmel, California area, including a fairly expensive round at Spanish Bay, one of his favourite courses. The course was immaculate and compares to Spyglass. He commented that he would live there if he could afford it.

Ray has been married to Madeline for 62 years and they have two daughters, one son, two grand-daughters (one a rehab counsellor, the other a practical nurse), one grandson (a mining engineer!), two step-granddaughters (a fashion designer and a film extra/model). He lists his favourite vacation spots as Carmel, California; Salzburg and Vienna, Austria; Cornwall, England; Machu Picchu, Peru; Iguassu Falls, Brazil; and Atacama Desert, Chile. Hobbies include photography, soccer, hiking, opera, classical music and nature (birds, wild flowers).

Ray was on the Board of Directors of West Point Golf Club for many years, serving as Membership Director, Secretary, President and Past President. He was instrumental in establishing the first club digital database after computerizing all of the individual handwritten data cards. With backing from Jim Selley he also introduced and oversaw our first electronic eSignup system and supervised eHandicap in its early stages. He spent an additional two years as an Advisor to the Board. In recognition of his dedication, devotion and innumerable contributions to the members of the Club, Ray was named a Lifetime Member at our 2012 Annual General Meeting.