

Sketch of a West Pointer: Wayne Ferrey

Wayne Ferrey was born in Rossland, BC and completed his schooling there before moving to Cranbrook to take Senior Matric, known as grade 13 in those days. He attended Victoria University for Teachers' Training and returned to teach in Cranbrook for a year before attending the University of BC, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree. He received an M ED degree from Western Washington University in 1966. He taught Math and Science at Lord Byng Secondary for three years before taking a position in North Vancouver where he taught, served as Head of a Secondary School Counselling Department and finally as a special counsellor.

From 1971-73, Wayne and his family enjoyed a two year stint with DND when he worked as a school psychologist at the Canadian Air Base in Baden Baden, West Germany. Returning home, he was a successful applicant to be a school principal in North Vancouver, a job he enjoyed for 20 years, before retiring in 1994.

While going to university, Wayne played golf about five or six times each summer but didn't start the game in earnest until age 42 in 1979. He managed to get his handicap down to 10 at one point and it held steady at 12 or 13 during the first years of retirement. When asked if he had ever shot his age, his response was, "No, but it is one of my major ambitions. I did shoot a 74 in 2010 when I was 73 and 77 in 2014 during the Club Championship but I was 76 at the time."

Wayne has been lucky or good enough to score three holes-in-one: Palm Springs in 2001, Redstone GC in Rossland in 2013 and at University GC in 2014. Memorable occasions in Wayne's golfing history include: playing Pebble Beach on his 50th birthday, three consecutive birdies to start his game at Mayfair Lakes, runner-up in the Club Championship of University Men's Mid-Week Club in 2001, runner-up in West Point's Club Championship in 2002, Consolation Champion at WPGC in 2003 and being the winner of the Match Play Club Championship for West Point Golf Club in 2008.

Everyone has their favourite golf courses; Wayne identifies his as the Kelowna Golf and Country Club and his home-town Redstone Course in Rossland, where he learned to play the game. The golfers he most admires are: Arnold Palmer, "who did so much to bring golf to the public; Jack Nicklaus, for his excellence of game; Freddie Couples, with his wonderful tempo and beauty of swing; and Tiger Woods, for his excellence and tenacity."

Included among his hobbies and interests are opera, classical music, travelling and of course, golf. Wayne was one of the co-founders of the Opera Club, based in Vancouver, and has served as its Coordinator. The organization presents 10 lectures per year at the downtown SFU Campus on Hastings Street. Wayne has been president of the Western Canadian Opera Society and has lectured for the Opera Club and the Vancouver Opera. When he is not involved in music, he has belonged to a number of wine clubs; his favourite was Umberto's.

Wayne's family includes his wife Gloria, son Bob, a Safeway manager, daughter Kathy, a film producer, and three precious grandchildren. Over the years, the family has done ten home exchanges – three to Australia, two to England and New York City and one to Montreal, Auckland and Washington DC. Wayne's favourite vacation destinations are New York City, Italy, Ireland and of course, Palm Springs.

*Prepared by Lorne Lindsay
May 2015*