



**THE  
PULLEYBLANK  
FAMILY**

**Oldcastle, Ontario**



In 1956 Earl Pulleyblank Sr. from Essex, Ontario purchased land from Mrs. Collins (relative of Mrs. Marion Parr) on Hwy #3 west of Walker Road in Oldcastle. He along with his son, Robert (Bob), established a tree nursery business called Oldcastle Nurseries which grew into a landscaping business, Suburban Landscaping.

Bob took bought out his father in 1957 and continued with the landscaping business until he retired in 1996. In 1957 he married Donna (nee Market) from Woodslee and built a home next to Suburban Landscaping in 1958. They raised four children:

1. Kathy Lyn Mildred born in [REDACTED] She is married to Chris McCarthy. They live in Maidstone and have 3 children: Jessica, Sarah and Luke. Kathy owns and operates Country Flower Shop in Maidstone.
2. Earl Robert Clarence born in [REDACTED] He worked alongside his dad until 1996. He has 4 children: Jeffrey, Justin, Melissa and Monica. He lives in Windsor.
3. Wendy Margaret born in [REDACTED] She worked alongside her dad until 1996. She is married to Brian Cunningham and lives in Essex.
4. Patricia Marie born in [REDACTED] She is married to Greg Bright and lives in Troy, Michigan. They have 3 children: Sam, Abby and Grace.

Bob was in local politics from 1966 to 1978. He served as Reeve of Sandwich South and Warden of Essex County in 1971. He was also the first Chairperson of the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) as well as serving on several committees and boards. He established the Essex Region Goodfellows in 2004. He sponsored baseball and hockey teams in Sandwich South.

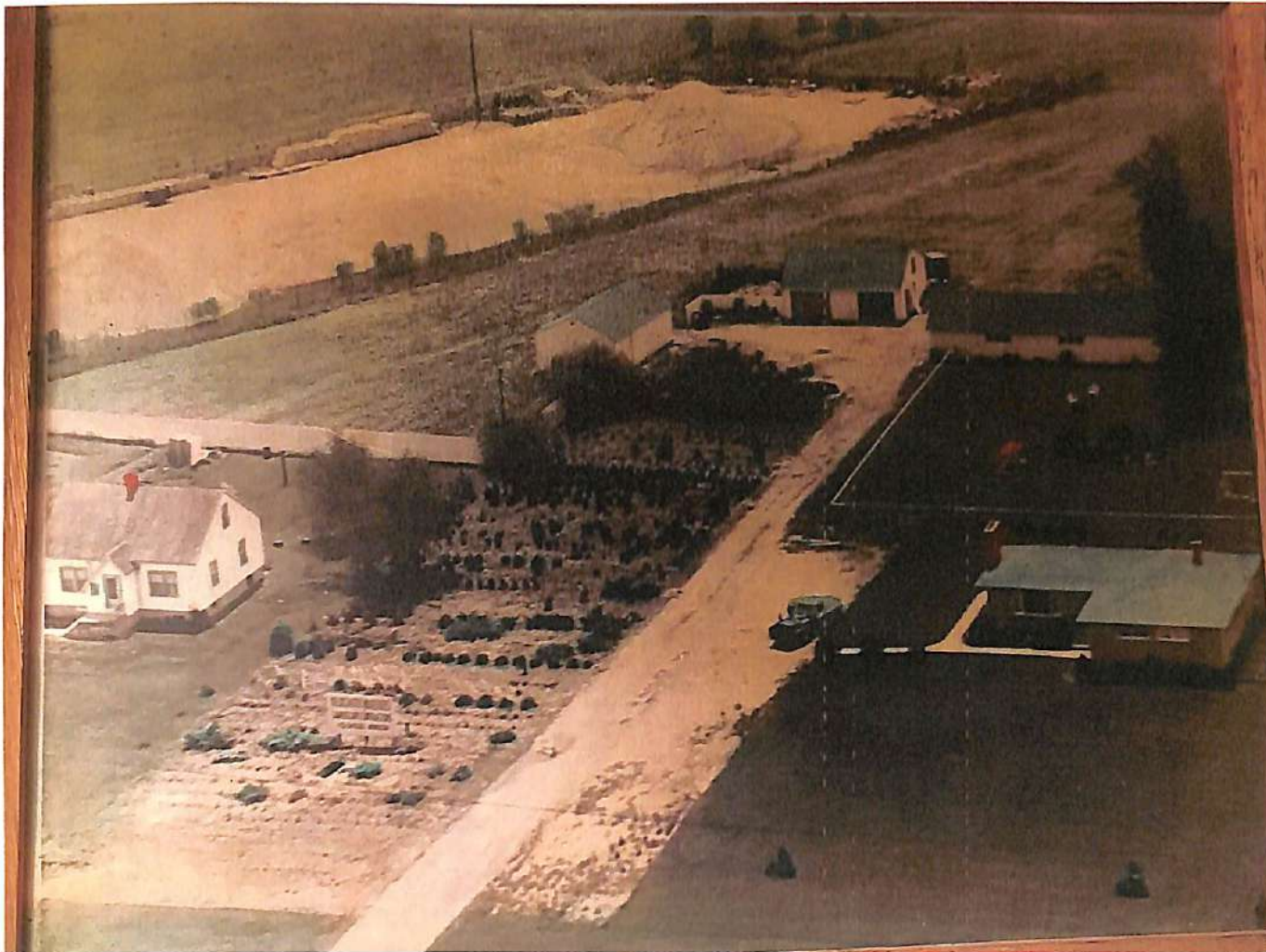
Donna was a 4-H Leader in Oldcastle, Women's Institute Member in Roseland, Canadian Cancer canvasser, founding member of the Sandwich South Historical Society and volunteer with the Goodfellows. The family attended Roseland United Church.

Their children attended the public schools in Sandwich South in particular, Frith and Percy McKee. In 1969 they all were transferred to the new school, Sandwich West Public in LaSalle (since they lived west of the railroad tracks). Later they attended Sandwich Secondary – Kathy and Earl attended the split shift of Sandwich Secondary at Amherstburg High School until Sandwich Secondary was built in 1975.

Earl, Wendy and Trisha played baseball at Weston Park and St. Mary's Park. Later on Kathy, Wendy and Trisha converted to the Roman Catholic faith and presently attend St. Mary's Church in Maidstone.

Earl was a volunteer fire fighter with Sandwich South in the 1980's. Earl & Wendy continue volunteering with the Essex Region Goodfellows. They also participate in ERCA events and Sandwich South developments (Oldcastle Heritage Park and the Sandwich South Cultural & Resource Centre) and the Sandwich South Historical Society.

Bob passed away on July 23, 2010 and Donna passed away on January 23, 2016. They are both buried at Greenlawn Cemetery in Oldcastle. The family home was sold in 2011.



**The Pulleyblank Home and Suburban Landscaping in 1960  
Bob & Marie Market's home (white) next door and  
the Ministry of Transportation in the background**



(2010) Pulleyblank Home



Earl Kathy  
Trisha Wendy

(1968)























## Robert "Big Bad Bob" Pulleyblank

March 12, 1935 - July 22, 2010

Dear husband of 53 years to Donna (nee Markert). Dear father of Kathy (Chris) McCarthy of Maidstone, Earl (Lil) Pulleyblank of Windsor, Wendy Pulleyblank of Essex, and Patricia (Greg) Bright of Troy, Michigan. Special grandfather to Jessica, Sarah (Chris), Luke McCarthy, Jeff (Carolann), Justin (Cassia), Melissa, Monica Pulleyblank, Sam, Abby & Grace Bright. Great grandfather to Emersyn Pulleyblank. Beloved son of the late Earl and Corinne Pulleyblank. Dear brother of Howard & Kay Pulleyblank of Kitchener, Mildred Pulleyblank of Toronto, Caryl and Harish Verma of Burlington and Pauline Pulleyblank of Hamilton. Predeceased by Bill Pulleyblank. Brother-in-law to Susan Pulleyblank of Guelph and Marjorie (Morley) Rounding of Essex. Will be missed by several nephews and nieces. Cherished friend of Luigi Tosti. Will be sadly missed by his buddies at the Oldcastle Tim Horton's. Bob was owner and operator of Suburban Landscaping in Oldcastle from 1957 until retiring in 1996. He planted thousands of trees, plants, flowers, and millions of yards of grass. He was a visionary and environmentalist before his time. Bob was Reeve of Sandwich South Township from 1965 to 1979. Warden of the County of Essex in 1971. First Chairperson of Essex Region Conservation Authority. Past President of the Windsor-Essex Heavy Construction Association. Member of Landscape Ontario. Founding member of the Essex Region Goodfellows and The Sandwich South Historical Society. Member of the Royal Canadian Legion in Essex. Sponsored hockey and baseball teams in Oldcastle. Respecting Bob's wishes a private family burial has taken place.



# ROBERT EARL PULLEYBLANK

## LIFE ACHEIVEMENTS

1. Born on March 12, 1935 to Earl and Corrine (nee Beneteau). Oldest child.
2. Lived on Talbot Street North in Essex.
3. Married Donna (nee Markert) on March 23, 1957.
4. They built their home at 2115 Hwy #3 in Oldcastle in 1958.
5. Robert bought out his father's Oldcastle Nursery in 1958 and started Suburban Landscaping. He retired in 1996 and sold the business.
6. Family included Kathy, Earl, Wendy and Patricia.
7. Member of the Michigan State Turfgrass Foundation.
8. Member of the Ontario Landscape Association.
9. President of the Windsor-Essex Heavy Construction Association
10. Member of Ontario Parks Association.
11. Member of the Associated Landscape Contractors of America.
12. Member of the Professional Grounds Management Society.
13. Bob was elected Councilor in Township of Sandwich South in 1963.
14. Bob was Reeve of Sandwich South Township from 1967 to 1978.
15. Bob was elected Warden of Essex County in 1971. One of the youngest politicians to serve as a Warden.
16. First Chairperson of the Essex Region Conservation Authority in 1973.
17. Honorary Member of Ciociaro Club in 1977.
18. Served on the Board of Directors at Windsor Western Hospital.
19. Received the Distinguished Citizen Award from McAuliffe Park Association in 1975.
20. Received the Boy Scouts of Canada Appreciation Award in 1984 from the 75<sup>th</sup> Rovers.
21. President (in 1987) and Director of the Sandwich South Goodfellows from 1968-2004.
22. Named the Sandwich South Township Honorary Fireman in 1987.
23. Received the Ontario Municipal Recreation Distinguished Citizen Award in 1989.
24. Received an Appreciation Award from the Sandwich Baptist Church in 1986.
25. Founding member and President of the Essex Region Goodfellows 2004-2010.
26. Associate Member of the Royal Canadian Legion #201 Captain Brien branch in Essex.
27. Sponsored the Oldcastle Hockey Team and the Sandwich South Men's Baseball Champions 1968-1971.
28. ERCA established in 2011 the Robert Pulleyblank Municipal Award to be given each year to the municipality who demonstrates conservation practices.
29. St. Clair College in Windsor honored Bob as a Major Contributor to the Landscape Industry in Windsor and Essex County. His name is engraved on the Legend wall.
30. Tree planted in Memory of Bob in 2011 at the Oldcastle Heritage Park.
31. Major landscape projects accomplished: South Windsor subdivision, Forest Glade subdivision, E.C.Row and Huron Church Roads, the Kings Navy Yard Park in Amherstburg, the Riverfront Park in Windsor, the original Windsor Casino, Boblo Island, the Odette Business building at the University of Windsor, to name a few.



## Donna Pulleyblank

October 18, 1935 - January 23, 2016

(nee Markert)

It is with broken hearts that we announce the passing of our mom, Donna Margaret Pulleyblank. She died peacefully on Saturday, January 23, 2016 at the age of 80. Dear wife of the late Robert (2010). Loving mom of Kathy (Chris) McCarthy of Maidstone, Earl (Lil) Pulleyblank of Windsor, Wendy (Brian) Cunningham of Essex, and Patricia (Greg) Bright of Troy, Michigan. Special grandmother to Jessica McCarthy, Sarah (Riaan) Boshoff, Luke McCarthy, Jeff (Shannon) Pulleyblank, Justin Pulleyblank, Melissa (Eric) Eagen, Monica Pulleyblank, Sam, Abby and Grace Bright. Great-grandma of Emersyn, Rya and Carter Pulleyblank; two more on the way that our mom was excited about. Beloved daughter of the late Clarence and Vernetta (nee Neuert) Markert. Dearest sister and friend to Marjorie (Morley) Rounding of Essex. Sister-in-law of Mildred Pulleyblank of Toronto, Caryl and Harish Verma of Burlington, Pauline Pulleyblank of Hamilton and Susan Pulleyblank (late Bill) of Guelph and the late Howard & Kay Pulleyblank. Will be missed by several nephews and nieces. Donna was born and raised on her parent's farm in Woodslee. She met our Dad at a Junior Farmers dance and were married in 1957. She worked alongside him in the political field and with the family business, Suburban Landscaping. Donna was a former 4H Leader in Oldcastle, Women's Institute member, Canadian Cancer Society Canvasser, Goodfellow volunteer and a member of the Sandwich South Historical Society. Our mom lived each day with great strength, courage and love. She will be missed by her friends in Oldcastle. Thank you to the Iler Lodge Nursing Home – Administration and staff who took great care of our mom. Thank you to the nurses and doctors at the Windsor Regional Hospital-Ouellette Campus for their exceptional care. Donna is resting at the Kennedy Funeral Home (519-776-7378) 128 Talbot St. N, Essex on Monday from 2-5 & 7-9 p.m. Donna's life will be celebrated from the funeral home on Tuesday at 10 a.m. with Father Dave Boutette officiating. Interment Greenlawn Memorial Gardens. Donations may be made to the Essex Region Goodfellows, P.O. Box 25, Essex, ON N8M 2Y1. You may send your condolences and share stories online at [www.kennedyfh.com](http://www.kennedyfh.com)

Heaven has received a beautiful angel!





*The Pulleyblank Family at Wendy & Brian's Wedding – January 30, 2016*









### Wendy's Bio

- Wendy was born and raised in Oldcastle.
- She graduated from Sandwich Secondary and the University of Waterloo (degree in Environmental Studies)
- Worked along side her dad in the family business of Suburban Landscaping until 1996 and then to Hotel-Dieu Grace Hosptial until 2004 and finally Secretary at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Essex.
- She was involved in countless charitable and community organizations:
- Canvasser for the Canadian Cancer Society
- 4-H Leader in Oldcastle
- Member of the Sandwich South Parks Board
- Published the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book on Sandwich South Fire Department
- Founder of the Sandwich South Historical Society
- Coordinator of the Sandwich South Centennial
- Founder of the Twinning of Oldcastle with Oldcastle, County Meath in Ireland
- Coordinator of the St. Mary's Church 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Chairperson of St. Mary's Cemetery Board
- Member of St. Mary's Parish Council
- Member of St. Mary's Mission Club
- Member of St. Mary's & St. John's Jubilee Refugee Committee
- Catholic Women's League member of Holy Name of Jesus
- Chairperson of the Essex Region Goodfellows
- Coordinator of the development of the Oldcastle Heritage Park
- Coordinator of the Cultural & Resource Centre in Oldcastle
- Member of Royal Canadian Legion Captain Brien Branch 201 and of their Lady's Auxiliary
- Played baseball at Weston and at St. Mary's parks
- Family historian and party planner
- Environmentalist-planted trees for all special occasions
- Friend for life to everyone she meets.