

Serious fun at VPC

Star children's Christmas party wins
accolades from kids and grown-ups alike

Photos on Pages 16 & 17

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Patricia Klemp, daughter of Bjorn Klemp, an electrician in the Maintenance department, is trimmed with a tree of her own.

BELAND HONDERICH, 1918-2005

Tributes to Beland Honderich come from far and wide

From Peter C. Newman to Milt Dunnell, scores of former and current employees wrote to the *Star* to pass along their thoughts and condolences for former publisher Beland Honderich, who passed away on Nov. 8 at age 86. Following is a sampling of comments received.

"My father was a unique figure in the history of Canadian newspapering. His passion for quality journalism, his zeal for maintaining the traditions and beliefs of the *Star*, his desire for change and helping others, along with strict standards in how a paper should be run, all together made for a unique individual.

"He would like to be remembered as a man who endeavoured to make a useful contribution to society – those are his words ... He made that well-known to his children.

"I think the history of Toronto and the history of the *Toronto Star* are inextricably linked and I think people in the city will definitely remember him as being a major player in the evolution of the city and the values and the tolerance and the well-being that formed the basis of Toronto today.

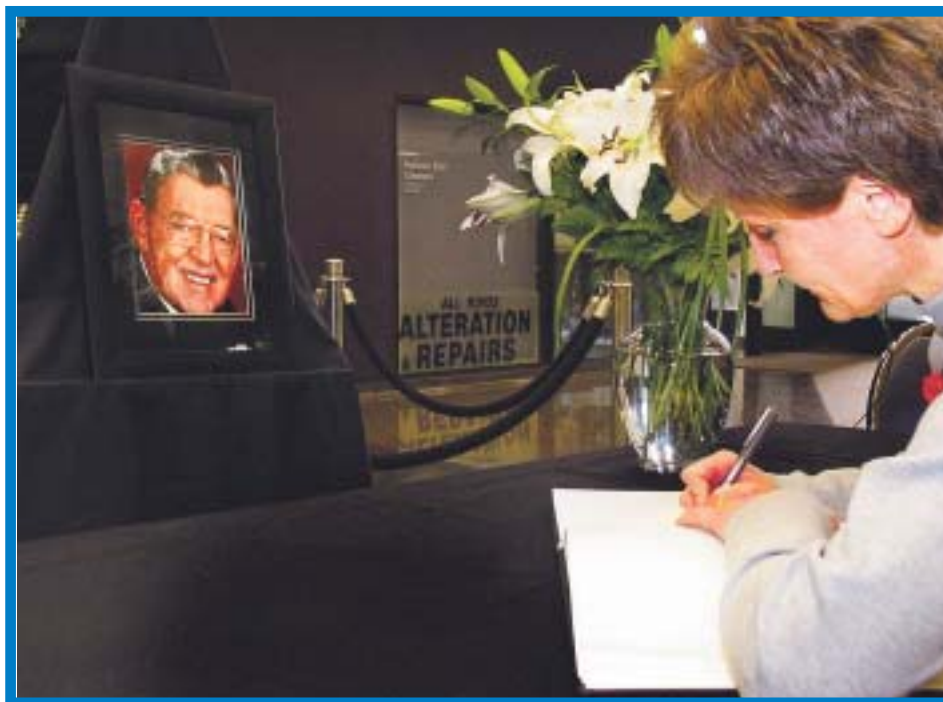
"As you can imagine, when you have a father as strong and successful as mine, that presented challenges, but yet what he did, what he accomplished and what he was able to do with the *Toronto Star* was a huge inspiration to me."

– **John Honderich, former Toronto Star Publisher**

"All of us at the *Star* today are entrusted with building on the remarkable legacy established by Beland Honderich. He set a powerful and distinctive course for this newspaper that, decades later, we strive to live up to every day.

"His passion for social justice, his uncompromising dedication to journalistic excellence and his profound commitment to Canada continue to guide and inspire us."

– **Michael Goldbloom, Toronto Star Publisher**



Carolyn McDougall from the Promotions department signs the condolences book in the One Yonge lobby. The books from One Yonge and the Vaughan Press Centre allowed staff and others the opportunity to reflect on the impact and influence Beland Honderich made on their lives and his role in shaping the *Star*.

"The two greatest figures in the history of the *Toronto Star* and Torstar are Joseph E. Atkinson and Beland Honderich. Mr. Honderich was to our second half century what Mr. Atkinson was to our first: our leader, our driving force, our guiding light, and our inspiration. He was a great figure not only at Torstar but in Canadian business as a whole. He built a great and lasting company that will long stand in testimony to his outstanding work."

– **Robert Prichard, Torstar President and CEO**

"I remember how the newsroom was stilled when Mr. Honderich entered. It was a mark of respect. I feel privileged to have met him and offer sincere condolences to John Honderich and the rest of the Honderich family."

– **Tim Harper Washington**

"Beland Honderich was a great Canadian, who, in his time, was publisher of one of the world's great newspapers."

– **Philip Mascoll Editorial**

"He will be deeply missed. I owe my beginnings at the *Toronto Star* to

him. I was a recipient of the Honderich Award in 1996. This truly changed my life. I will always be grateful to Beland Honderich for his generosity and thoughtfulness. He made a great and lasting impression on my life and career – more than words can say."

– **Maithily Panchalingam, Advertising**

"Scared the hell out of me when he welcomed me to the paper. And I think I only spoke to him once after that. But you couldn't make a move in the newsroom without provoking a "Beast" anecdote – and the BH stories comprised a sort of corporate folk wisdom that we all lived by, regardless of whether we wanted to admit it. He was a giant in a business that has been inherited by proofreaders and pygmies with MBAs."

– **Brian Gorman, Ottawa**

Mr. Beland Honderich was a giant in the newspaper industry. His contribution to Canada is immeasurable and his legacy will live on. Our sincere condolences to the family."

– **Andrew & Susan Go, Toronto**

"As a former secretary to Mr. Honderich, I would like to express my deepest sympathy to his family. He was a great boss, had one of the most infectious laughs I've ever heard and a wonderful smile. He was a great, great man. I was fortunate in my life to work for both Beland Honderich and John Bassett so I know about great."

– **Linda Hokanson Toronto**

"I send my deepest condolences to the Honderich family. It has been a pleasure to have come into the sphere of such a remarkable man as Beland Honderich. His accomplishments at the *Star* are legendary and I consider myself fortunate to have had the honour of witnessing, albeit from afar, the building of his legacy."

– **Jane Young Advertising**

"A remarkable Canadian, impatient with injustice in all of its forms, a keen and creative mind when it came to policies that could make a difference to the disadvantaged, and stubborn when it came to anything less than excellence. To have known Beland Honderich for even a moment is to have indelibly etched impressions of genuine Canadian values of fairness and equity as part of the experience."

– **Charles Pascal Atkinson Charitable Foundation**

"Beland Honderich cared about ordinary readers. He tried to give them a progressive paper that would provoke, inform and entertain, always in plain English. He believed the *Star* should be open and accountable to readers and critics. He always respected political adversaries.

"Mr Honderich's relentless curiosity, engagement in public affairs and fighting spirit were an inspiration, even if he sometimes scared the hell out of people who worked for him. My condolences to Mr. Honderich's family, and the *Star* he loved to the end."

– **Don Sellar Port Hope**

BELAND HONDERICH, 1918-2005

Friends gather to 'share memories over glasses of wine'



John Honderich



Maithily Panchalingam, Star employee, past Honderich Award recipient



Hon. Frank Iacobucci
Torstar chairman



Michelle Landsberg
former Star columnist



Tom Walkom, Mayor David Miller, John Tory, Gerard Kennedy, Peter Armstrong, Bert Bruser



Bill Davis
former Ontario premier



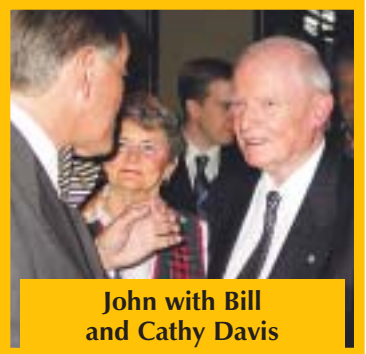
Ted Honderich
Beland's brother

Politicians, journalists, staffers and retirees gathered at the Westin Harbour Castle on Dec. 5 to celebrate the life of Beland Honderich. Stories were shared among the 300 guests during a reception, which was followed by tributes from the podium and an 11-minute video spotlighting the long-time Star publisher's life and the impact he made on this city, our country and the Toronto Star. "I think my father would have been pleased with this 'informal gathering, where memories could be shared over glasses of wine, without fuss,'" said John Honderich in reference to his father's explicit instructions to the family on how his final arrangements should be handled.

VINCE TALOTTA/BILL LaBRANCHE PHOTOS



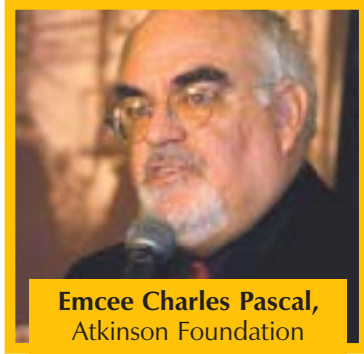
John with Bob Rae
former Ontario premier



John with Bill and Cathy Davis



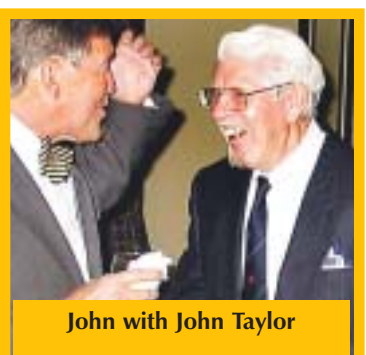
John with Premier Dalton McGuinty



Emcee Charles Pascal, Atkinson Foundation



John with Michael Goldbloom



John with John Taylor



Ron Thomas, Mary Deanne Shears, Jocko Thomas

