

1980

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When my husband and I married August 23, 1980 he had (so we thought) one year left in school. We married at the end of the summer so we could each live at home and save our summer earnings. We were going to live in Kitchener, Ontario where we met, in a bachelor apartment and we had no car. Our income was going to be my unemployment cheque until I could find a job. With these circumstances ahead of us we postponed our honeymoon, choosing instead to set up our home and get ready for the new school year.

The following August we were finally going on our honeymoon. Our choice was Niagara Falls. He still had no car so we took the train from Kitchener to Union Station in Toronto where we boarded an Amtrak to Niagara Falls for \$13.00 (return) per person. As our funds were limited and we wanted to take in different attractions we decided to choose a less expensive motel for the major part of our stay. We stayed at The Cataract Motel in room #7. He had a taxi take us to our motel from the train station. This was the only taxi ride for us while in Niagara Falls. He strolled Lundy's Lane from Clifton Hill to the area of McDonald's Restaurant many times. We walked many different streets, hand in hand, seeing places and things I'm sure would have been missed or ignored if we had not walked. We were in no hurry.

After settling in to our room we took the Pilgrim Motor Inn Tour. This allowed us to see sites we couldn't see without a car. Such as the floral clock and the ride over the gorge. We received our official Niagara Falls Honeymoon Certificate and a letter for complimentary

admission to various attractions for myself.

The next day we enjoyed time at Maple Leaf Village and especially a ride on the world's largest ferris wheel. It stopped while we were at the top allowing us to enjoy the spectacular view a little longer. We later played mini-golf at Golf-o-rama on Clifton Hill (Our score was 46 45, I lost)

Our third day we enjoyed time at the arcade at the Skylon Tower. We then purchased the Deluxe Savings Combination tickets for Pyramid Place. We saw the Good Times Jamboozie, Hocus Focus, The Great White Water Niagara Picture Show and a double feature on the large screen; Circus World and Ontario/Summertime

Our fourth day we packed up our suitcases and walked down the street to a more expensive hotel, The White Oaks Inn. It was our last night and we "splurged". We had reserved a room on the top floor with a view of the falls and a heart shaped tub. Once we settled in there we went down to the Maid of the Mist and enjoyed a wet trip to the bottom of the falls. Later we viewed the Aquarium at the Panosonic Tower-Centre. In the evening we had supper in the tower's restaurant. We felt lucky when we actually were seated at a table by the window giving us a view of the falls. The meal was fantastic. The evening was romantic.

Our last morning we had breakfast in our room. To us this was a real treat. Our train was leaving at 1:10pm so we stayed in our hotel room as long as they allowed. Actually, the maids came by twice to make up the room.

Our honeymoon was adventurous to the end. We left our hotel and took the city transit to the train station. I can imagine what people might have thought seeing us standing at the bus stop with our luggage.

Near the train station there was a used book store and we had time to stroll through it, much to my husband's delight. (Finally, after six more years of university he has put his love of books into action. He is now the Head Librarian at the college where we met over 14 years ago.)

Although we may live closer to Niagara Falls than others who have honeymooned there, this was a relaxing honeymoon full of as much fun and romance, I'm sure, as a honeymoon in the Caribbean could be, without the added expenses.

We know there will always be interesting things to see and do in Niagara Falls, many of which we have not seen ourselves, and we look forward to taking our children when they get older.

Gail Hill