

1960's

January 25, 1993

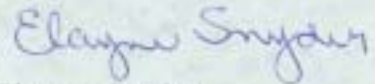
Mr. John Van Kooten, Publisher
Niagara Falls Review
4801 Valley Way
Niagara Falls, Ontario L2E1W4

Dear Mr. Van Kooten:

Enclosed is a copy of our honeymoon at Niagara Falls nearly
twenty five years ago. I read about The Golden Honeymoon Memories
Contest in our local newspaper.

Please take this story into consideration. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Elayne Snyder
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A Winter Wonderland Honeymoon

My husband and I were married on December 27, 1968. That year he had enlisted in the U.S. Army and was stationed at the Atlanta, Ga. Army Depot. Bruce received his orders for a tour of duty in South Viet Nam. He was to leave on April 1, 1969. He was also scheduled to be home on leave for ten days over Christmas.

We hurriedly made arrangements for a small private wedding on the Friday evening after Christmas in Bellville, OH. We then left for a memorable honeymoon to Niagara Falls.

That weekend northeastern U.S. experienced a severe ice and snow storm. As we entered the Niagara Falls area at dusk late Saturday afternoon on December 28th we decided to cross Rainbow Bridge to sightsee the Canadian side. I have a receipt that it cost us \$.40 to cross the bridge. What a beautiful sight. All the trees had ice crystals on their branches and there was nearly one foot of clean, white snow on the ground. The park was decorated with red and green lights which reflected off the icy trees. The illumination and display of those lights was an awe-inspiring sight. With heavy coats and snow boots we trudged to the lookout to see and hear the roar of the mighty Falls. It was a beautiful spectacle.

We then drove to the Cliffside Motel at Niagara, Canada and checked into our room. As we unloaded our bags into Room 323 (\$16.00 per night) I realized I had the keys to our borrowed luggage in my purse. I searched in the room, our car, and we even drove back to the Falls - no luck. I had lost my purse with the keys and also part of our honeymoon money. My husband was carrying the traveler's cheques and I had the cash. We proceeded to find a locksmith. Since it was a holiday weekend we made call after call and finally reached a man willing to come to our room to open our luggage.

Over the next two days we enjoyed the sights of the Falls area. We took the BIG LOOK at the Falls at the Oneida Observation Tower and Plaza. At that time it was only 4 years old having been completed in June 1964. We ascended in a glass enclosed elevator to the observation deck that towered high above the scenic Falls. We were able to get a view of both the American and Horseshoe Falls.

Since our hotel was in the very heart of the tourist area we were within walking distance of the famous complex of attractions and restaurants.

After our honeymoon our marriage was then followed with a year's separation because of the Viet Nam War. We will be celebrating our 25th wedding anniversary this year. We look back with wonderful memories and are glad we choose such a beautiful and romantic place to spend one of the happiest times of our lives.

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