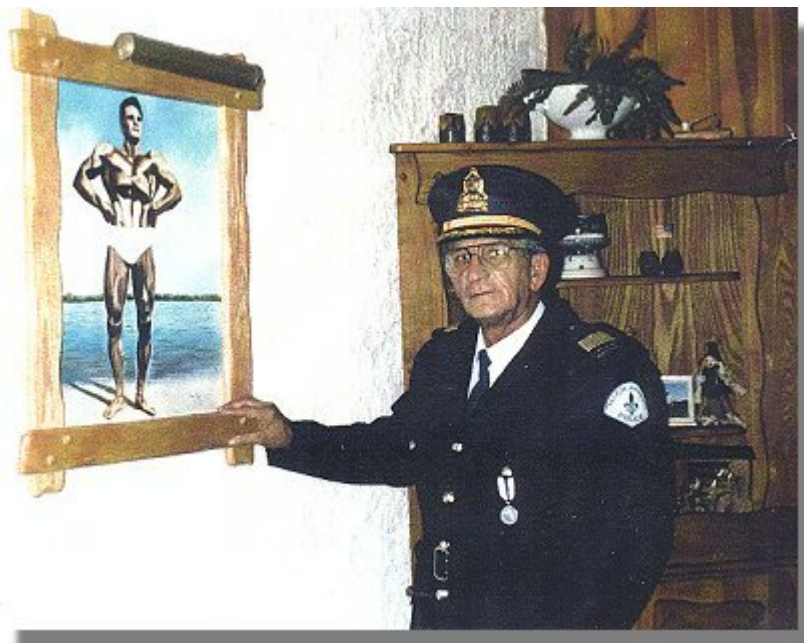


Joffre L'Heureux

In Memoriam (1917-2006)



Joffre L'Heureux, Chief of Police (RTD), reminiscing about his victory as "Mr. Canada" in 1947

Chief of Police, Richmond & Huntingdon, Quebec, Canada

Mr. Canada

Canada's Most Perfect Physique 1947

Plus Bel Athlete Au Canada 1947

Best Developed Back 1947

Canada's Best Developed Athlete 1951

International Federation of BodyBuilders

By Terry McConnell

Joffre L'Heureux served in three cities in the province of Quebec for five decades. He was first a young constable in Sherbrooke, and then CHIEF OF POLICE in the city of Richmond (the youngest at age 26) and in Huntingdon (the oldest at age 69). A half century of service and protection.

In a final tribute to the "CHIEF", Huntingdon Mayor Stephane Gendron ordered that flags be flown at half-mast during the week preceding funeral services, which were held November 4th, 2006 at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church. Joffre L'Heureux's funeral services saw the beloved Chief of Police buried with full honors. Members of the Provincial Police Force, RCMP and the RCMP Pipe Band participated, with colleagues from the New York State Police and members of a variety of police forces paying their final respects. Huntingdon's Fire Department was prominently on hand forming a parade which wound its way through town.

Joffre L'Heureux will long be remembered by members of the community who numbered in excess of four hundred in attendance at the funeral services. The Chief will also be remembered in a special tribute in many ways including a permanent display of uniforms, trophies and awards in a museum setting at the Rideau Vert Library.

A special statement by long-time friend and President of the International Federation of BodyBuilders, Ben Weider, paid the following tribute ... *"If you are not familiar with the name Joffre L'Heureux, it is probably because he chose to pursue a career in law enforcement rather than explore his potential for international bodybuilding success. Yet, in his day, he did more to promote bodybuilding in Canada than anyone outside of the brothers Weider."*

As Chief of Police in Richmond, Quebec, his exploits were legendary. Despite his relative youth, seemingly small physical stature (he was only five-feet eight and a half inches), and light weight (not much more than one-hundred eighty pounds), he was called upon to clean up what was then a rowdy town filled with lumberjacks, many of whom were considerably larger than himself. Long-time residents of Richmond still speak of his conquering more than one bully at a time and offering them

lodging behind bars if they caused trouble again. He tamed the town within a short period before accepting the assignment of Chief of Police in Huntingdon, where his mandate was somewhat similar (clean up the town) and his success rate equal to the task.



Joffre L'Heureux, being congratulated by **Ben Weider** on his 1947 Mr. Canada victory

Mr. L'Heureux was Chief of Police and Chief of the Huntingdon Fire Department until he retired December 31st, 1986. Joffre L'Heureux was a competitor at many levels, as a strongman, a champion marksman, Eastern Canada wrestling champion in his weight division and multi-award winner in bodybuilding competitions, including, in addition to being crowned Canada Most Perfect Physique 1947 at Montreal's Monument National, he was voted "Most Muscular" in similar competitions in 1948 and, in 1951, was recognized by the International Federation of BodyBuilders as Canada's Best Developed Athlete. In November 2005, Mr. Ben Weider C.M., C.Q., C.St.J, Ph.D., presented Joffre L'Heureux, in his 89th year, with a very special award. A Trophy and "Certificate of Honour", with an accompanying note confirming his long-time friendship, admiration and respect for Mr. L'Heureux.

Joffre L'Heureux created the Police department of Huntingdon from its foundation, developing a systems analysis tracing and recording all events relating to policing of his jurisdiction. In addition to Police Chief, he was also a mentor to the youth of Huntingdon, redirecting young lives into productive members of the community.

Joffre L'Heureux was highly respected by members of his community and members of American Police and State Troopers in neighboring New York State and Quebec Provincial Police, both of whom he dealt with on a regular basis. His retirement banquet saw more than two hundred and fifty members of the community on hand, from the local Mayor and councilors to high provincial and federal Government representatives, Police and Fire associates, as well as many family members and representatives of the general public, paying tributes of respect and admiration for a man who devoted the majority of his life in their service and protection. In his farewell address, the Huntingdon Police and Fire Chief summed up his half-century career in law enforcement with these words ... *"I have always felt that it was my duty to help my fellow citizen to find a proper solution to the problem that was submitted. In applying different laws, I have always sought to be as human as possible so that all decisions would be respectful of the rights of everyone without exception whatsoever."* The attributes of a well rounded, well grounded police officer fully deserving of all accolades.

Joffre L'Heureux died Tuesday, October 26th, 2006, at the age of 89. Joffre leaves his family that included his loving and devoted wife Lise (nee Lemay), four sons and a daughter, and a total of 18 grandchildren, 26 great grandchildren and one greatgreat grand child.

He truly made a difference!