

Bernice SMART

NOMINEE: **Bernice SMART (Posthumously)**

MEMBER SPOUSE: **Cyril (Cy) SMART, # 1504 (D)**

DETACHMENT(S): **Hudson Detachment July 1, 1966 – December 15, 1967**

NOMINATOR: **William (Bill) SMART (son)**

SILENT PARTNER STORY

Provincial Constable Cy Smart was hired by the OPP on March 9, 1954 and spent his entire career with the OPP in Northern Ontario, serving at detachments in Red Lake, Dryden, Emo, Hudson and Dowling. Bernice Smart followed and supported her husband from detachment to detachment until he retired on August 31, 1985. It was during their time in Hudson that Bernice was called upon more directly assist in Cy's OPP duties.

Hudson is a small community on the CNR mainline and about 20 miles west of Highway 72, which goes to Sioux Lookout. The OPP personnel in Hudson patrolled the hamlet of Hudson and Lac Seul First Nations.

Cy Smart was transferred to Hudson Detachment on July 1, 1966. The OPP office and OPP residence for the constable in charge and his family were located in the same small building in the centre of the community, across the street from the local hotel. The Smart family stayed in Hudson until Cy was transferred on December 15, 1967.

Bill Smart was only seven years old when his parents, now both deceased, were posted to Hudson Detachment. He only has a few memories of their time there. While his father was stationed at Hudson Detachment, his mother, Bernice always answered the front door to the police office when his father was out and she would speak to the people. Bernice also always answered the telephone in the

detachment office and residence when Cy wasn't home. She would write the information down and then call someone else on the phone to pass on the information.

Bill Smart is apologetic for not remembering more about their time in Hudson OPP Detachment. As noted, Cy Smart spent his entire OPP career in the northern Ontario, retiring in 1985 as a Provincial Constable in Dowling Detachment. Wherever he served, Bernice and family followed.

Bernice was often left alone with her family while Len was on patrol, with limited means of communication with Cy. She was expected to answer the phone and the detachment door when people knocked. Her contributions greatly assisted Cy in his work, but she received no compensation for her services. Another Silent Partner.

About Hudson

Hudson lies on the shore of Lost Lake, a 20-minute drive from downtown Sioux Lookout. Beginning as a railway town in 1910, this town of 300 residents began to focus on the logging industry in the 1940s and that industry continues to drive the local economy to this day.