

Gertrude SLEEP

NOMINEE: Gertrude SLEEP

MEMBER SPOUSE: Grant SLEEP, # 1983

DETACHMENT(S): Still River 1966 – 1978

NOMINATOR: M. Ron. J. CAMPBELL

SILENT PARTNER STORY

Mrs. Gertrude Sleep's husband, Grant Sleep, was the Detachment Commander of the Still River OPP detachment. The Sleep's were posted to the Still River detachment from 1966 to 1978.

In that time frame, Still River was approximately a three to five officer detachment and served the area of north-eastern Georgian Bay from south of the hamlet of Pointe Au Baril to the French River and the portions of Georgian Bay to the west and just short of Port Loring to the east. The area had three First Nations territories and two other small communities of Britt and Byng Inlet, as well as Highway 69.

In the 1960s, as it was until the late 1980s, the Corporal's residence was attached to the detachment and cells. In the early day the basement of the detachment also served as the court room. In order to go from the main residence to the laundry, persons had to walk through the detachment.

During Mrs. Sleep's stay at this 3-year duration posting, she would answer the telephone day or night, take complaints, use the police radio, provided comfort to victims of crime, write statements and acted as matron and cook to prisoners and visitors alike, all without financial compensation.

Mrs. Sleep's dedication should be recognized as during this time frame she still maintained her own household with her own children. Dedication such as Mrs. Sleep's enhanced the image and reputation of the Ontario Provincial Police and allowed the detachment to meet its day-to-day needs.

It was in 1974 that a clerical position was created at the Still River detachment and Mary Bertrand (nee Outram) was employed on this date and provided the information concerning Mrs. Sleep's name. It is without a doubt that Mrs. Gertrude Sleep deserves to be recognized from the "OPP Silent Partner Award."

About Still River

Located 101 kilometers south of Sudbury on the Trans Canada Highway (Highway 69) Still River is now part of Henvey Township, which includes Britt Station as well.