

Comedian Johnny Wayne inducted into Caledon Walk of Fame

Johnny Wayne, one half of the beloved comedic duo Wayne and Shuster was today inducted into the Caledon Walk of Fame.

Friends, family, dignitaries and members of the public honoured Wayne at a ceremony which included tributes, fond remembrances and the unveiling of a commemorative stone. Wayne joins the ranks of other distinguished Caledon inductees such as painter Cory Trépanier, filmmaker Normal Jewison, writer Farley Mowat, builder Conn Smythe and the founders of the McMichael Canadian Collection in nearby Kleinburg, Robert and Signe McMichael.

"Growing up I remember Wayne and Shuster as one of those things that made up who we are as Canadians," said Mayor Allan Thompson. "It's an honour to recognize in a small way the talent and the commitment and the legacy of Johnny Wayne, someone who has brightened the lives of generations of Canadians."

"It's so special for me and my family to be honoured in this beautiful way," said Brian Wayne. "Having my father's name alongside such great names here in Caledon would bring a smile to his face. Caledon was near and dear to both my mother and father."

Johnny Wayne is best known as half of the Wayne and Shuster comedy team, entertaining decades of Canadians through radio and television. The duo achieved tremendous success throughout Canada and the US, becoming the most frequently recurring guests on the Ed Sullivan Show. Wayne and Shuster have been honoured at the Gemini Awards, received the Margaret Collier Award and have been inducted into Canada's Walk of Fame.

Johnny and his wife Beatrice loved living in the picturesque community of Caledon, working with Caledon Community Services, the Albion Bolton Agricultural Society and many other community groups to help bring smiles, joy and laughter to their friends and neighbours.

The Caledon Walk of Fame was initiated in 1999 for the purpose of honouring past and present Caledon residents who have made a significant contribution to the quality of life locally, nationally and internationally.

The Caledon Walk of Fame is situated in the Trans Canada Trail Pavilion Park on the west side of Airport Road in Caledon East. A stone is placed in honour of each recipient during a formal Walk of Fame ceremony, held annually when there is a qualifying nominee.