

CHAPTER 2

A Birthday Gift

On Wednesday the 26th of May Gladys and I drove up to a little school building, a mile or two east of Sharon, Wisconsin, to show some slides of our European adventures for a group of farm folks arranged by Mary and Ed.

The following week end brought Memorial Day. After planting a couple flats of flowers around the house we went up to Libertyville for picnic at Claveys. Before we started to eat it began to rain which moved us inside.

Mid-June brought another trip to Toronto for a Canadian Dealer Advisory Council meeting

Saturday the 19th was a big event for our next door neighbors, the Duffys. Their daughter was married and they held the reception in a good sized tent in their backyard. We were invited along with a number of other Chapel Court neighbors.

It was "business as usual" for my 50th birthday on the 29th. However, I did receive a gift which prompted a relatively important milestone in a couple of lives.

Dad gave me a book entitled "*The Battle of Belleau Woods*" by Robert Suskind. This book, as the name indicates, was about one of the major battles between the Germans and the U.S. Marines in World War I.

It was of particular interest to Dad because **he was one of those Marines** who took part in that battle. Although he still had two or three buddies from WW I whom he talked about from time to time, he seldom mentioned the specific details of his participation in the five major battles of that conflict. He passed the book along to me for my 50th birthday, probably because he knew that I covered some of the same territory during my participation in WW II.

A 30th Anniversary

The 21st of July 1971 fell on a Wednesday. That morning I went to the office as usual, but upon entering my office I found a big poster on one wall.



The poster of the wall of my office included a globe of the world encircled by the flags of many nations and inscribed "*Don Hintz 30 Years.*" Soon after I arrived Don Porth and Harold Werhane came in to congratulate me on this anniversary.

As you undoubtedly realize the company was big on employee recognition. They recognized tenth and twenty-fifth anniversaries with a lapel pin in the form of the *Culligan* script.

Illustrated here is the lapel pin they presented to me on my 30th. They had a brief gathering in the cafeteria during the afternoon break where Harold Werhane made the presentation. There was a cake for all to enjoy



This pin featured the company's Swirling C trademark with three diamonds across the bottom.

53 Years Without Change

Dad was getting around fairly well without crutches, so I came up with the idea of taking him along on one of my European visits, taking a few days of vacation, and retracing his steps in WW I.

I didn't have to ask him twice when I approached him with this idea! He was all for it and said, "When do we leave?"