

COOLEST DAD in the UNIVERSE

He was 50 years old when I was born, and a "Mr. Mom" long before anyone had a name for it. I didn't know why he was home instead of Mom, but I was young and the only one of my friends who had their dad around. I considered myself very lucky.

Dad did so many things for me during my grade-school years. He always had my lunch ready for me when I came home - usually a peanut butter and jelly sandwich that was shaped for the season. My favorite was at Christmas. The sandwiches would be sprinkled with green sugar and cut in the shape of a tree.

As I got a little older and tried to gain my independence, I wanted to move away from those "childish" signs of his love. But he wasn't going to give up. In high school and no longer able to go home for lunch, I began taking my own. Dad would make it for me. I never knew what to expect. The outside of the sack might be covered with his rendering of a mountain scene or a heart inscribed with "Dad-n-Angie K.K." in its center. Inside there would be a napkin with that same heart or an "I love you." Many times he would write a joke or a riddle, such as "Why don't they ever call it a momsicle instead of a popsicle?" He always had some silly saying to make me smile and let me know that he loved me.

I used to hide my lunch so no one would see the bag or read the napkin, but that didn't last long. One of my friends saw the napkin one day, grabbed it, and passed it around the lunch room. My face burned with embarrassment. To my astonishment, the next day all my friends were waiting to see the napkin. From the way they acted, I think they all wished they had someone who showed them that kind of love. I was so proud to have him as my father. Throughout the rest of my high school years, I received those napkins, and still have a majority of them.

When I left home for college, I thought the messages would stop. But my friends and I were glad that his gestures continued.

I missed seeing my dad every day after school and so I called him a lot. My phone bills got to be pretty high. It didn't matter what we said; I just wanted to hear his voice. We started a ritual during that first year that stayed with us. After I said goodbye he always said, "Angie?" "Yes, Dad?" I'd reply. "I love you." "I love you, too, Dad."

I began getting letters almost every Friday. The front-desk staff always knew who the letter were from - the return address said "The Hunk." Many times the envelopes were addressed in crayon, and along with the enclosed letters were usually drawings of our cat and dog, stick figures of him and Mom, and if I had been home the weekend before, of me racing around town with friends and using the house as a pit stop. He also had his mountain scene and the heart-encased inscription, Dad-n-Angie K.K.

The mail was delivered every day right before lunch, so I'd have his letters with me when I went to the cafeteria. I realized it was useless to hide them because my roommate was a high school friend who knew about his napkins. Soon it became a Friday afternoon ritual. I would read the letters, and the drawing and envelope would be passed around.

It was during this time that Dad became stricken with cancer. When the letters didn't come on Friday, I knew that he had been sick and wasn't able to write. He used to get up at 4:00am so he could sit in the quiet house and do his letters. If he missed his Friday delivery, the letters would usually come a day or two later. But they always came. My friends used to call him "Coolest Dad in the Universe." And one day they sent him a card bestowing that title, signed by all of them. I believe he taught all of us about a father's love. He left an impression that would stay with them and inspire them to give their own children their expression of their love.

Throughout my four years of college, the letters and phone calls came at regular intervals. But then the time came when I decided to come home and be with him because he was growing sicker, and I knew that our time together was limited. Those were the hardest days to go through. To watch this man, who always acted so young, age past his years. In the end he didn't recognize who I was and would call me the name of a relative he hadn't seen in many years. Even though I knew it was due to his illness, it still hurt that he couldn't remember my name.

I was alone with him in his hospital room a couple of days before he died. We held hands and watched TV. As I was getting ready to leave, he said, "Angie?" "Yes, Dad?" "I love you." "I love you, too, Dad."

By Angie Ward-Kucer

My Dad was one I looked up to. He taught me many important life lessons, showed me the ropes in sports, played with me as a child, and always gave me love and support. And most of all, showed me what being a great dad is all about. Now a father myself of 2 boys, I have a lot to live up to! Happy Fathers day to all the Dads and Grandfathers out there! ~Dave and The Grime Team



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Headwaters Real Estate Recap: MAY 2016

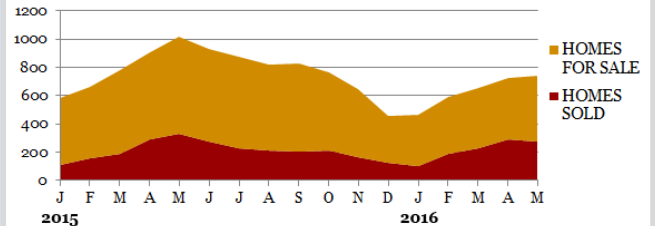
We continue to reach record sales levels in the Headwaters region of Orangeville, Dufferin County, Erin and Caledon this year. **With 275 sales occurring in May**, the market remains strong for Sellers.

Again **inventory remains low**, as the high sale volume has kept the inventory from growing. With only 463 listings currently available in Headwaters, **Buyers can't be picky** in this Seller's market. In contrast, in May of 2015, 683 listings were available to Buyers (a whopping 220 listing difference).

Multiple offer situations are normal in this market, with most homes under \$700,000 selling for list price or higher. With the spring market nearly over, we will have to see if the market calms down! ~Dave

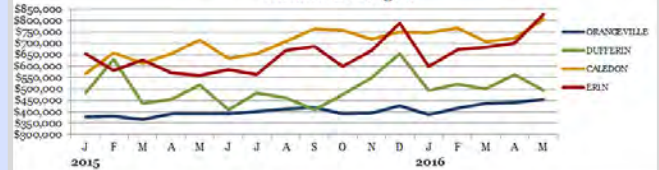
Headwaters Market Performance 2015 - 2016

Headwaters Region: Orangeville, Dufferin, Caledon and Erin



Average Sale Price 2015 to 2016 YTD

Headwaters Region



For more graphs please be sure to visit our "Real Estate Recap" blog on our website at www.thegrimeteam.com.

Simple ways to add COLOUR to your outdoor space

Injecting colour into the landscape doesn't have to be difficult or a budget-buster — and colour can come from a variety of sources. Here are some simple ways that you can add refreshing hues outside.

Select colourful outdoor furniture. They often serve as focal points in the landscape, which makes them great places to add colour. As a less expensive option, add colourful pillows to your existing furniture set.

Bring in colourful pots. One of the easiest ways to create a more colourful garden is to incorporate containers in shades of blue, magenta, orange, purple or even red.

Add an outdoor rug to your deck or patio. Don't overlook the opportunity to add interest at ground level by bringing in a rug with a pleasing design in shades that will enhance your outdoor area.

Paint a wall in an eye-catching colour. A can of paint and a couple of hours are all it takes to infuse the landscape with a rich hue. Paint an exterior or garden wall for a dramatic difference.



Brighten up a bare wall with a mural. Especially helpful if space is limited, as a mural takes up no ground space and adds both colour and interest to an outdoor wall. Whether you add plants to the landscape by painting them on the wall or create the illusion of a framed piece of art, a mural can be a great way to dress up the outdoors.

Add colour toward an entry with flowering plants. This draws the eye toward an entry — and can also increase curb appeal.

Add flowers to your vegetable beds. Plant cosmos, marigolds and nasturtiums in with your vegetables. They not only add lovely colour but attract pollinators.

houzz.com



The Grime Team helped these clients **MOVE** in May!



If you or someone you know is thinking of making a move please be sure to give us a call at 519-941-5151!

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