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Dykes bevol in On Pr.  
Levensloop (8)

Hello, I am Peter Kreedijk, age 72. Immigrant from Holland since 1953. This book was given to me for my birthday 30-6-88 by my daughter Margriet to write my memories in, so that the family, that comes later, get to know me, if they so desire. When you get older, like 72, you will lose your hair, part of your eye sight and hearing but your memory is still there. Maybe, you forget a lot about last week, last month or last year, but the early years of my life I do remember well. I was born the 14<sup>th</sup> child on a big farm for Holland 40 H.A. + 100 acres. The farm "Hasswijk" was located between a canal and an old Church, de Groene Kerk or Willibrod Church. Willibrod and Bonifacius where Missionaries who brought Christianity to Holland from England. It was the 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest Church in Holland. Was ruined + burnt more then once by the Vikings but always rebuild. Bonifacius was killed in Dokkum, Friesland for his belief. Our Church was Dutch Reformed, the Queens Church still the largest after the Reformation although several protestant Churches have seperated from them over the years. I went to Church in the morning and in the afternoon walked  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an hour to the Sunday school. We went to a

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(2)

Redigious instruction every morning.  
On Monday morning we had to pro-  
duce; a clean handkerchief, a penny  
for the Mission and our hands on  
the bench to show that they were  
clean, especially the nails. Then  
each pupil had to recite a vers from  
a famous hymn or psalm. We wal-  
ked to the school with other boys  
my brother Joe and I, 2 boys from the  
Police man Krige and 2 from Sand  
graaf. Later, when I walked alone I  
remember to carry a tin with dough  
to the baker and picked up the fresh  
baked bread going home. After I got  
home, age 14, and worked 2 years on the  
farm, with brothers Joe and Arie. The  
depression was so bad, that Father  
quit farming in 1932. I was lucky  
to get a job in a garage "Kom steeg" where  
my other brother Jan Piet was a good  
mechanic, who helped me. He later  
died and his wife of T. B. which was high-  
ly contagious and fatal before penicillin  
was invented. We named John Peter  
after this uncle, because I highly re-  
garded him. It is amazing how much  
our John Peter Willibrod looks and acts  
like his Uncle. When I grew up I won-  
dered why there were so many unem-  
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 employed, I was boarding with my brother  
 Arie, who was a hard worker and skilled  
 welder and no work. Uncle Herman, who  
 was in Canada as our guest in

1967 Tried to convert me to Communism which I rejected. The big social experiment in Russia soon turned out to be a dictatorship of proletariat of which the people not participated. In the Church choir I met my friend John Schoneveld, who came to Canada to visit. We sailed together, build a canoe, drove motorcycle, went to concerts etc. We were very close and came close to solving the worlds problems. We joined the Oxford group, because there was a rich man converted to Christianity, who's face used to be very harsh, and became the most lovable man you can imagine. There was a big rally in Utrecht where people from all over the world come together singing about building bridges between the nations and hymns like Onward Christian Soldiers etc. After I turned to Christ I confessed all my sins o.a. to my boss that I called the police on them. They did not fire me, we lived in heaven for a while. Once the people started to take advantage of the good Christian boy I slowed down, not that I ever forget the experience which was wonderful. Although I never went to High School my very close friendship with John, who was secretary in the Municipal office, gave me a general education while growing up and debating politics, religion etc. We

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were anti-militaristic but the war was  
hard on our convictions. We were glad

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to see the Canadians come and liberate us. I don't know about John, but I gave up a militarism, joined the Legion in admiration of the Canadian Army. During the war I escaped being sent to Germany by working on a family farm and later a Government job expecting up on farmers to keep the little food that was available for everyone. I met Jane in the farm community, fell in love and went to her home every weekend. Jane's Mother wrote to our Minister about kind of a fellow I was, because we went sailing on Sunday, which did not go over good there. Through involvement with the German Army and my work, I lost my boarding house and we married March 15 1945, 2 months before the end of the war. It was something borrowed, something bought etc, but we never regretted the day soon the war was over and building began.

Why we emigrated is related in een story typed in the back of this book. With emigration came a change of life style for us both Jane and me. We wanted to be a success. Jane took boarders, I repaired cars for Dutch people which resulted in Jane's grill and Pete's Garage. In Holland we were not much involved and

40  
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In Holland we were very much involved  
in the Churches, young people, boys clubs  
and camps, etc, and lived from a small  
income. Here in Canada was a change to  
get your own business and get ahead  
in life. We always went to Church



Sunday  
School

on Sunday and because Delta was such a small village most of the time our kids went to the United Church. For a time I taught Sunday school in the United Church and was a Warden in the Anglican Church. A little village has its special charms, I remember, when I got an serious accident in the local hardware store, they prayed that Sunday in 3 Churches for my life and I got over 100 get well cards while in hospital in Kingston. The Lord has been good to us we've been taken well care of, to emigrate with 4 little children, in the early part no social services and low income. The kids were badly sick, we never needed a doctor. Looking back, at one time I wanted to go to Indonesia so bad in the Dutch Air force. Later, when the Japanese invaded there, I thought how lucky I was, we were better off under Germany than in the Jap. camp over there. I believe that I am privileged to be born in a free Christian Country and be raised by loving Christian Parents. As such I believe in Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour and that I don't have to fear anything. We live every day as a grace out of His hand and it is a miracle that He, Who is Omnipotent, All Knowing, all wise and all present, would stoop to bother with people who are hard and lost bound

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to this earth and full of sin. I also be-  
lieve that we have to share our wealth

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with the underprivileged in this country and abroad. Jesus taught His disciples to feed Him, clothe Him, and visit Him while in prison. They asked when did we see you hungry or naked or in prison? He said when you did this to the old, poor and unfortunate you have done it to me. Now, when you read all this don't think that I always come across on my beliefs, I have a hard time not to be critical of the world, friendly to people that disappoint you etc. That's why we go to church to charge our batteries, to use a mechanical expression. Now I like to go back to explain my political conviction. John and I were members of the Christian Democratic party, which was a splinter party with 1 or 2 members in the lower house of 100 members. It was the only C.D. party and also Anti-Militaristic. The basis for all these ideas in Holland was a book of Prof. Heermija called "The collapse of Christianity" in which he argued that Christianity can never rule a country and that the fall came when the first Roman Caesar was converted to Christianity. He founded this theory on Jesus word to Peter "He who take up the sword will fall with the sword" when he tried to defend Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane, and cut off the ear

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 den of Gethsemane and cut of the ear  
 of a soldier. So when there was an elec-  
 tion we were busy pushing pamphlets

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in the people's post boxes. In Holland  
 they vote not by districts (counties) but  
 one goes for the provincials + Provinces and  
 the big one for the 2<sup>e</sup> chambre (<sup>lower</sup> Chamber)  
 Every vote counts and if 10 000 000 votes  
 are cast, every 100 000 vote brings in a  
 member. The parties have an concordance  
 list and the top ones go in for sure.  
 So the popularity vote is very close to  
 the elected members and you don't get  
 these big swings back and forth. But  
 Oh the little parties! When the auto mo-  
 bile began to get popular people like to  
 travel but every little hamlet used  
 to have a toll going back to the days  
 of castles and knights. The auto mobile  
 clubs got so mad that they stormed  
 these places and tried to up root the  
 old-fashioned system. Finally they  
 got 3 or 4 members in Parliament  
 and the Government acted and put all  
 the tolls on the high ways out of  
 business. The provinces have very little  
 power, the people that run the provinces  
 are appointed by the rural elections.  
 During the war the political front was  
 quiet the R. Catholic fought side by side  
 with the Communist in the underground.  
 Soon the war was over the insurrection  
 was flying again. In a heavily popu-  
 lated country like Holland every political  
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lated country like Holland every political  
party has its own daily news paper and the  
people swear by the paper and will never  
admit to be brain washed. Who can

afford the money, and the time to read  
 15 news papers to search for the truth?  
 After the Queen came back from Eng-  
 land, were the Stage during the war,  
 she put a Social Democratic Govern-  
 ment into power, who ruled with the Liberals  
 and did a splendid job. Unlike the  
 1<sup>st</sup> W. war when Belgium was smashed  
 up, this time Holland was flattened.  
 No Trains, no Trams, buses or Trucks,  
 We were helped by the Marshall plan  
 and were the 1<sup>st</sup> one to do without  
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 So our little C. Dem. party was auto-  
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in politics, since we were landed im-  
 migrants for 5 years, but we became ci-  
 tizens right away and always voted.  
 Some times you think what for, my party  
 has n't got a ghost of a chance. We have  
 voted N.D.P. but when a good Liberal  
 come up (Matheson) we voted for them.  
 We have never voted for the Tories the  
 name is ~~at~~ <sup>of</sup> paradise Progressive-  
 (going forward) - Conservative (holding  
 back) Why they vote P.C.? Because  
 one of their fore fathers was such a good  
 man and good boy, buried 100 years. It  
 is a cop out to lazy or ignorant to  
 read the papers about Parliament and form  
 an opinion. Here we go again. We were  
 19 years in business in Delta and we  
 did n't put a sign up or discussed  
 politics, you'll lose customers and  
 never gain any.

...to give, they make their solemn vow  
In awesome wonder of the here and now  
One hand and Margriet here holding hand  
Before the Lord and people now they stand  
May your union, blessed up above  
Create a well of constant love  
For love is a source past understanding  
Like living water, never ending  
May the Lord Bless and keep you for each other  
To be for the children a real father and mother

### Co 20 jaar

De Haarlem - keredijken bij el kaar  
Want Mama Co is tachtig jaar  
Dit heuglyk feit moet wel gevierd  
En 't hele huis is dus ver sierd  
De jongste Zoon, eraan gedacht  
heeft de familie bij-een gebracht  
Hij heeft de wereld rond gesehreven  
En de kudde naar huis gedreven  
Wij zijn ver blyd met Gods bestime  
Zorgde voor joum daar jaar en uur  
We hopen en braden in je verdere leven  
Dat Hij je altijd leiding mag geven  
Dat zijn de wenschen van ja hmy en Peet  
Want Welts in Canada, ze hergetch je niet

Toespraak  
Op het 20ste do jar  
van Margriet Ma

A SENIOR

The senior of the human races  
Has seen a lot, went many places  
In this world of pain and crime,  
Has been around a long, long time.

There is one thing, you ought to know  
Their every day is just a show  
For eyes and ears are not so good  
That part of life is understood

Although their strength is on the go  
To see their work you'll never know  
They have the time and do things right  
Proof to the world, their human pride.

Their numbers are increasing still  
Sometimes parliament bends to their  
will.  
They know however, they get their share  
For God Bless Canada, it takes care.

Time will go by and many a pill  
Will tell them, you're over the hill.  
The flu will come as rheuma and gout,  
More pain and ache, glad to step out.

The end will come as a relief  
Their stay on earth was just so brief  
Their final home is up above  
Prepared for them by Jesus love.

- submitted by  
P. Breedyk, Beverley  
Seniors Club

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# HERITAGE HOUSE

*Comfortable Retirement Living  
in the heart of Mississauga*



Beautiful surroundings,  
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are good reasons why you should  
make Heritage House your home.



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(near Dundas & Hurontario)

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To