

Wilmer Vernon “Whitey” Sheridan

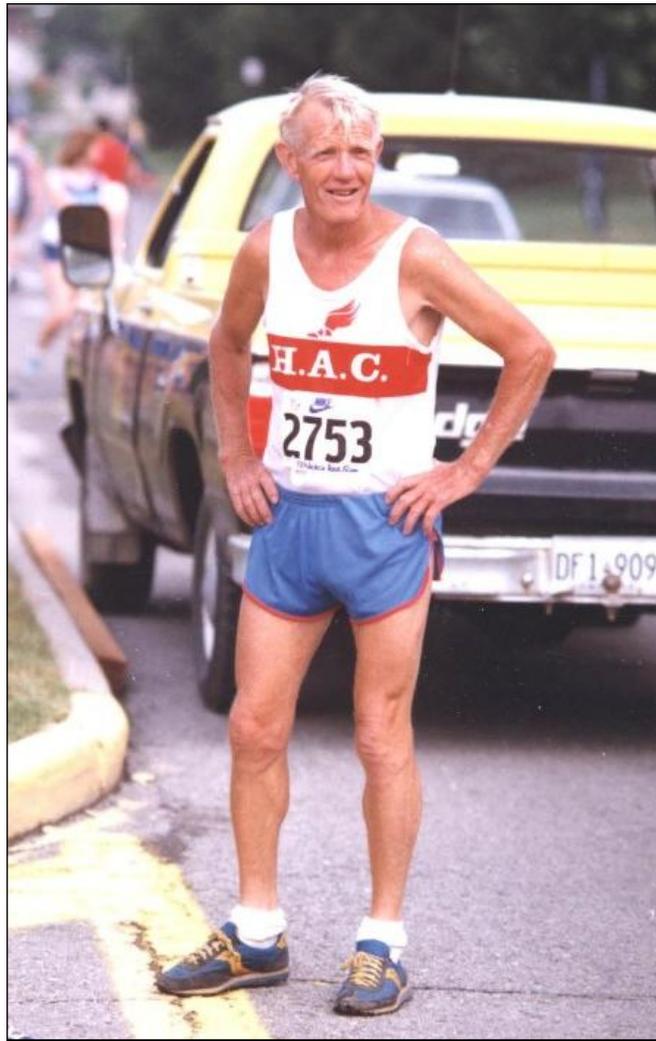


Photo courtesy George Aitkin

Whitey Sheridan was a true pioneer, mentor and role model for masters runners. When the masters athletics movement was getting underway in the late 60s and early 70s, Whitey was already in his 50s, and had been competing on the roads for decades. He ran his first road race in 1929 when he was 13, and kept on racing until his 85th year. He ran all distances from 800m to the marathon, just missing the Canadian Olympic marathon team in 1952 at the age of 36, when only one runner was selected. He kept up his running, competing on the track and cross-country as well as on the roads. His Canadian record for the M75 5000 meters indoors, set in 1991, still stands. A favourite race was the Hamilton „Round the Bay 18+ miler, which he ran 50 times. He was inducted into the Canadian Road Running Hall of Fame, and was a long-time member of the Hamilton Olympic Club, often providing coaching and support for younger runners. The many medals and awards that he won over this long career filled his basement room to overflowing. He did miss out on one award, though. As he described in an autobiography printed in *Masterpiece* in 1987, he “received a haircut for one prize – but the barber was not open on Saturday afternoons”. The many members of the Canadian Masters Athletic Association who remember Whitey’s outstanding career are proud to have his memory celebrated in their Hall of Fame.



The **2009 inductees** into the **Canadian Masters Hall of Fame** were announced at the Championships Awards Banquet on Saturday, July 18th in Kamloops. **Diane Palmason** is the Chair of the Hall of Fame Committee. Members of the Committee presented the HOF plaques.

Diane Palmason presented the Citation. Whitey left us on February 2, 2008. We were pleased to welcome Whitey’s son Michael and his grandson Chris (R), who were there to accept this honour in memory of Whitey.