# Friday August 5, 2011

In order to prevent water from gathering in front of our rig, Jason brought 2 loads of dirt and some grass seed to fill in the hole. Now we have to park the truck farther back so that the grass can grow.



All the rain has been good for the new grass and for the flowers. We can see this trailer and all the beautiful greenery from our deck and back window.



Sometimes Mother Nature puts on a show for us.

Maureen planted groundcover from Tennessee between the sheds and it is growing quite well there.



Percy continues to enjoy sun baths on the new deck



He also likes the new fire pot we got for 60% off at the grocery store.

# Sunday August 7, 2011

We took a trip to Blythe to see a live play called Hometown. The show was sold out and was well worth the drive.

# Wednesday August 10, 2011

Matt and Kimmy went on a vacation, so they sent Charlie on the train today to spend a week with Nana and Grandpa.

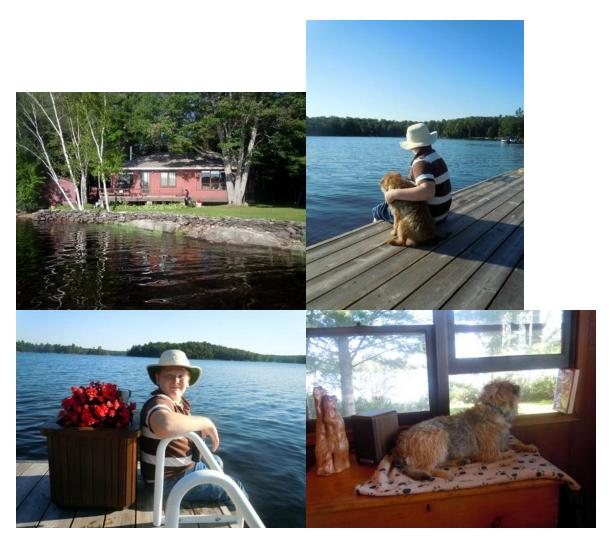
# Thursday August 11, 2011

We packed up the truck and headed northeast to Scott and Diana's cottage. It was a long drive as we avoided the 401, but we all enjoyed the many sights along the way.

### Friday August 12, 2011

Nana and Charlie got up early to enjoy the lovely morning. Charlie made the most of the early light by taking some pictures.





Charlie and Percy watching the water and the loons.

Inside Percy likes to sit in the window to watch the wild life.

Charlie and Nana went swimming and collected stones to build an Inuksuk.

It was challenging to get them to stay upright.



#### This one represents Nana



And this one is Charlie

Scott and Diana arrived in the evening and we all enjoyed a campfire by the lake.



# Saturday August 13, 2011

In the morning Mike and Scott tried to fix the riding lawnmower.

Diana found a friendly caterpillar



Time for a canoe ride





Charlie wanted to go tubing. Scott had to fix the boat first.



#### Then it was time for a wild ride



That was fun!

Scott got the lawnmower working. He was a very happy camper!



Once the lawn was cut, it was time for Charlie to try skiing. The first challenge was getting the skis on.



Scott lifted him into the water.

# Keep those legs together!



Hang on tight.

After three tries, Charlie almost made it up, but decided to leave skiing for another time.



Mike spent a lot of time doing what he likes best. He also cooked up some mouth-watering back ribs for dinner.



# Sunday August 14, 2011

Diana made French Toast and Pancakes for brunch.

The fishing rods hanging in the cottage kept calling to Charlie. Uncle Scott put some worms on the hook and taught him how to cast. Soon Charlie was the proud owner of a fish!



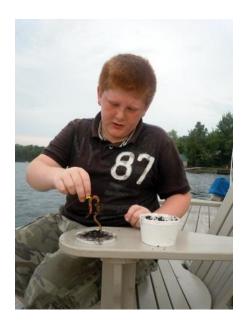
The second one was not as big.



Back on the deck Percy was taunted by a very brave chipmunk that would come to the top of the stairs and then run away.

Then it was time for Charlie to put his own worm on the hook. Kind of hard to do without touching them, but somehow he managed to do it.





# Monday August 15, 2011

An updated picture of one that was taken in the same spot, many years ago, when Charlie was much shorter.



Mike reading again!

#### **Tuesday August 16, 2011**

We left the cottage mid-morning and slowly made our way home again, stopping for a short visit with Yvette and Horst in Bracebridge.

When we got back to the trailer, we received a phone call from a nurse at the Nursing Home. Unfortunately Maureen's Mom had been refusing to eat or drink or take her pills for a few days and was not doing well. Maureen, Mike and Charlie rushed to New Hamburg. About an hour later Mom took her last breath and slipped away peacefully. She was 94 and had lived a very good life up until the last few months. We are thankful for the excellent care that she received at Nithview for the past 2 years.

Rest in peace – we will miss you Mom.

#### Saturday August 20, 2011

We had a celebration of Mom's life in London with children, grandchildren and one great grandchild. A few friends and neighbours also came to share our sorrow and remember her accomplishments. Thanks to the people who sent flowers, condolences and made donations in remembrance of Ethel. Special thanks to Gord, who was our minister when we lived in Blenheim, and is now working in London. It was a great comfort to have him there to guide and support us.

### Wednesday August 24, 2011

Mom's ashes were laid beside Dad's at Woodlawn Cemetery. It has been a very busy and emotional week, but everything went well and we are feeling a good sense of closure.

#### Saturday August 27, 2011

We drove to Zurich to have dinner at Francine's.

The Bean Festival was still in full swing when we arrived, so it was quite an undertaking to get to the house. Congratulations to Francine's Mike on the new job.