

Waterloo, then completed a Masters at the University of Toronto. He spent the next 24 years as a planner with the City of London, including 16 years as London's director of planning. In 1993, he accepted an early retirement package and found himself, still healthy and energetic, with time on his hands. A series of aptitude tests pointed him in the direction of teaching, so he applied to the Faculty of Education and was accepted for the 1994-95 academic year. Larry was pleased but apprehensive. "I thought, Oh my god, what am I going to do. It's been 25 years since I've been in a classroom."

Fortunately, he had a built-in mentor. His daughter Lisa was studying at Western and welcomed him into the student

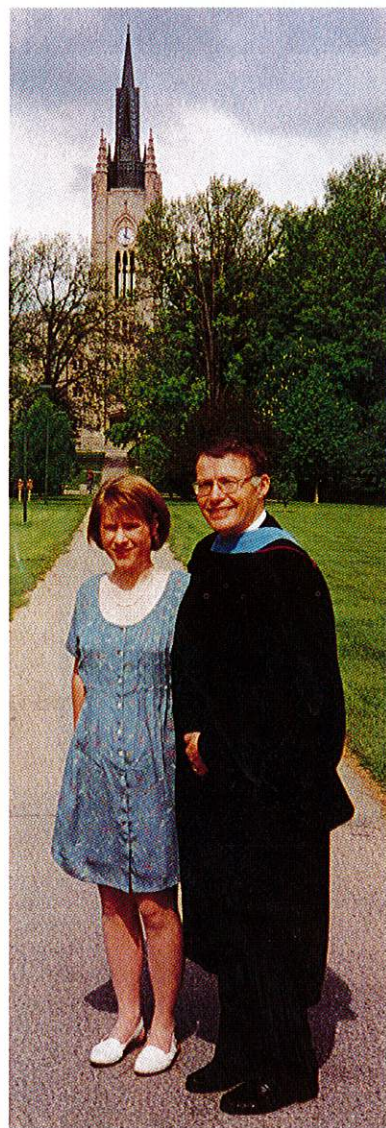
ranks. "It was nice having somebody going through the same thing. We both had to study, so it was pretty quiet around the house that year."

Lisa says Larry had exceptional study habits: "We hardly saw him. He locked himself in the furnace room and was constantly studying. I felt badly because I couldn't sit still for that long!" He created a detailed schedule for every week of the school year and to Lisa's amazement, stuck to it.

Lisa doesn't deny that things sometimes got tense, especially when they both needed time on the family computer, but she says they often helped one another and they eased the stress by taking frequent walks together.

Larry now has an extensive collection of purple and white memorabilia, including sweatshirts, t-shirts and baseball caps. He says Western has come to mean more to him than his previous universities, mostly because it was an experience he shared with his daughter. "This University is special to me and the number one reason is the person sitting beside me," he says, smiling fondly at Lisa. "You tend to lose sight of your own university days when you've got a daughter going to university and you have the opportunity to graduate with her."

Lisa will follow in her father's footsteps this fall when she registers at the Faculty of Education. Larry, meanwhile, is doing supply teaching and enjoying his hobbies of golf and painting.



Lisa and Larry Draho



## THE DRAHO FAMILY

In the front hall at Larry Draho's house, two handsomely framed Western diplomas hang side by side. Both are dated 1995. One belongs to Larry, the other to his daughter, Lisa.

As a young man, Larry Draho did his undergraduate work at the University of