

History of the 2013 Heritage Tree Award Winner Dawn Redwoods at 3638 Townley Road

In 1947, William and Eleanor Weaver purchased the home at 3638 Townley Road. It was a double lot and as their family grew, they found the need to plant some shade trees in their expansive back yard. Gali's Florist & Garden Center at 21301 Chagrin Blvd., founded in 1945, was a favorite stop for tree and plant lovers alike, then as it is today. In the early 1960s, Bill Weaver found what he thought were the perfect specimens at Gali's-- two 4-foot tall Metasequoia saplings. They had been grown from conifer seeds that had come from China. The Weavers planted both trees, but soon had to put the call out for help, because the trees had more than doubled in size and needed to be moved. The 10-year old neighbor's son, Tom Carey, mowed their double lot in 1964 for \$4 a cut. Mr. Carey, now the owner of AAA Center Heights Service Center at 3884 Warrensville Center Road, remembers the massive Redwoods well as he watched them grow throughout his childhood to become the twin giant sentinels they are today, reaching over 100 feet with diameters of more than five feet each.

Through the decades since 1964, the three subsequent owners of 3638 Townley Road have protected and cared for these two magnificent trees that we celebrate today as recipients of the Shaker Heights 2013 Heritage Tree Award.