

Florence Mary Parfitt (Rowley)

Florence Mary Parfitt (Rowley) was born in Victoria, B.C.

She was the second of four children born to Ernest and Helen Rowley.

The family settled on Hambley Street in Fairfield and became involved in the community, which included their attendance at Fairfield United Church. They enjoyed the music there, with Mom and the girls in the choir and her father's rich baritone favoring the congregation with solos.

Meanwhile, Florence began studying the piano and it soon became apparent that she was blessed with natural gifts, including a tremendous ear for music.

As time passed, the family moved along to join the congregation of old Emmanuel Baptist Church (now the Belfry). The musical and spiritual life there was so enriching that Emmanuel became their church home. A fellow in the choir, named David Parfitt, caught Florence's eye – and heart – and the rest is history!

Florence, by nature, was a very vibrant and creative presence. She used these facets of her personality, plus her incredible musical ability, to serve her Lord at Emmanuel Baptist Church. She tirelessly accompanied soloists on the piano for decades. Teaming with our song leader dad, she accompanied hundreds of songfests and carol sings.

For years, she was social convener and flower arranger extraordinaire. At Emmanuel she founded the Norrie Vandrick Mission Group and was a charter member of the Hazel Merritt Mission Group which celebrated their 60th anniversary a short time ago.

She did it all with a unique passion and devotion to her faith. For those who are not well acquainted with Florence, this is her legacy.

As for the private side of her life, she leaves to mourn, her brothers Charles (Hazel) and Edward (Wilma – deceased), her loving children Brent (Carrol), Ron (Cindy) and Sue (Bob Vincent). She was a loving Nana to Darren, Shane, Adam, Scott, Jonathan, Bryan (Vincent), Sarah, Christopher (Vincent) and Kathryn and a Great Nana and Auntie to many. She had an intense love of family, and she was one of the first to hold her grandchildren. Now God is holding her and He has sent the Holy Spirit to comfort us.

Florence lived a long and committed life. Life was not wasted on her. She extracted the best of it and never looked back. She is an example to all of us to live a full and happy life.

She will be truly missed but we are at peace with the sure and certain fact that she is now embracing her beloved David.

Life's Work Well Done
Life's Race Well Run
Now Cometh Rest

A Funeral Service will be held at Emmanuel Baptist Church on Thursday, May 26th at 2:00pm. 2125 Cedar Hill Cross Road, Victoria, B.C V8P 2R6

A graveside service will take place at Royal Oak Burial Park, Friday May 27th.

Condolences may be offered to the family below.

McCall Gardens

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