

Geoffrey Peter (Geoff) Venables

March 12, 1917 – January 21, 2013

With sadness we announce the passing of Geoffrey Venables on January 21, 2013 in Victoria, BC. He was 95. Geoff was predeceased by his loving wife Beverley in 2004 and is survived by his daughter Joan (Vic), his son Stephen (Colleen), brother-in-law Bill, along with grandchildren Nicole, Brandon, and Tanya and great-grandson Shane. He also leaves behind a niece, a nephew and many great nieces, great nephews and cousins.

Geoff was born in Victoria on March 12, 1917. His early life was spent in Port Angeles and Anacortes, Washington.

During World War Two he joined the Canadian Armed Forces and was a member of the Army band. After the war he embraced his passion as a classically trained musician playing violin with the Victoria Symphony. Geoff was the last surviving founding member of the Hometowners, one of the finest western bands in Canada broadcasting weekly on coast-to-coast CBC radio and locally on CJVI radio during the 1940's, 1950's and 1960's.

A "crowning" achievement of the Hometowners was performing live for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh at an impromptu square dancing recital at Government House during their visit to Victoria in 1959.

Geoff loved his family, travelling, and his waterfront home on Dallas Road which was the center of many memorable events.

"And the band played on!" Condolences may be offered to the family below.

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