



George Hiemstra

April 27, 2024

George passed away Saturday April 27th in Owen Sound, surrounded by family.

He will be missed by his cherished wife Patricia Hiemstra (Spacek) partner of 60 years, loving children Jennifer Hiemstra and Robert Hiemstra, and his elder sister Sarah De Jong (Hiemstra, Meima), Patricia's siblings and many nieces and nephews, as well as many wonderful friends.

George was born in Sneek, Netherlands at the beginning of WWII to Sidney and Sylvia Hiemstra (Kingma), and emigrated to Canada with his family in 1948, settling first in Owen Sound, Ontario. He became a teacher and taught at the Durham Board of Education for his entire career before retiring in 1994.

George and Patricia lived and taught in Ajax, Ontario for many years, and then retired first to Ottawa for 11 years, then Toronto for 11 years, and finally settling in George's beloved boyhood hometown of Owen Sound in 2016.

One of George's passions was music, and he sang with the Opera in Concert Chorus in Toronto and the Saugeen Bach Choir in Hanover, Ontario, and performed solo in many recitals. Late in life, he enjoyed piano lessons with Kati Gleiser, who had previously been his vocal coach and accompanist.

An avid conversationalist, George was always interested in people as well as current and historical events. Other hobbies during his life were woodworking and the occasional fishing expedition, and always, trips to Harrison Park in Owen Sound.

Thank you to the nurses and doctors at Grey Bruce Hospital in Owen Sound, and Home and Community Care Support Services South West, especially the personal support workers who came to the home.

Thank you also to all the wonderful friends and neighbors at Harbourfront Condominium (the Pink Palace) who have been so supportive and kind throughout.

A Memorial/Celebration of Life followed by a reception will be held at St. George's Anglican Church in Owen Sound at 1 pm on Saturday May 11th.

George would exhort all friends to be patrons of the arts and to try the burgers at Harrison Park Inn.

Those who wish to make donations in memory of George are asked to contribute any of OSHaRE, Medecins Sans Frontier (Doctors Without Borders) or Amnesty International, or the charity of your choice.

Tribute Wall



“ *I was truly saddened to learn of George’s passing. He was a great guy and a fine and sensitive musician.* ”

Eric James - May 24, 2024 at 06:49 AM