

It is with heavy heart that I write this newsletter.

Some, or possibly all of you know that Bruce Owen passed away this past Monday after a heart attack.

This is his obituary as written by his son Trevor:

OWEN, Bruce – Passed away suddenly at the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre in Barrie on Monday, February 7, 2022, at the age of 90. Bruce practiced law in Barrie for 63 years in the field of wills, powers of attorney and estates and real estate law and was a small claims court Judge for many years. Through the years he served as a leader in the community – president of Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club, Mental Health Association, Barrie Concerts, Georgian Music, Colours of Music, alderman and Member of Provincial Parliament. He was part of the leadership that brought Barrie Centennial Park, Kempenfest, the current RVH building and MRI. He also helped bring Honda to Alliston and legislation to ban smoking in the Ontario workplace. Bruce was the recipient of the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award and the Province of Ontario's June Callwood Leadership Award. Bruce also sang at most Barrie area Christian churches. Bruce is predeceased by his wife Anne (2018). He was the dear father of Trevor (Heather), Valerie Owen and Pamela Dubourdiou (Ron). Loving grandfather of Brianna, Chad, Ben, Alexandra, Jonathan, and great-grandfather of Alice and Charlotte. Predeceased by his brother Doug Owen. Cremation has taken place. Visitation will be held at Trinity Anglican Church, 24 Collier Street, Barrie on Friday, February 11, 2022, from 2:00 – 4:00 & 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 1:00 p.m. until the time of memorial service at 3:00 p.m. **Please note that due to current restrictions, attendance to the visitation and service will be limited. Those planning on attending are asked to RSVP on the funeral home website or call 705-722-6656 to reserve their place.**



As an expression of sympathy, memorial donations, may be sent to the Barrie Concert Association, Box 452, Barrie, Ontario L4M 4T7 or, if preferred, they can be dropped off at the Owen Law Office, 26 Owen Street.

There is a very nice article by Marg. Bruineman on "Barrie Today" - here is the link -

https://www.barrietoday.com/local-news/barrie-community-mourns-passing-of-a-legend-5044825?utm_source=Email_Share&utm_medium=Email_Share&utm_campaign=Email_Share

The Barrie Concerts will continue – a few board members had retired during the past year but Bruce had replaced them with other members who I am sure will prove to be assets to the group.

Hopefully COVID will reduce enough that we can again start presenting concerts – Bruce thought we would be arranging them by now until the latest variant appeared and the numbers of infected/deaths have increased. He wanted to wait until things are sounding safer especially since many of our attendees are seniors.

Bruce will be greatly missed by many - he was the heart and soul, the "core", of the Barrie Concerts and Georgian Music, the Wednesday concerts as well as the previous Colours of Music Festivals.

I learned last night that *The Flags at the Ontario Parliament will be lowered and fly at Half Mast on the day of Mr. Owen's funeral, Saturday, Feb 12, 2022 from Sunrise to Sunset in honor of his service to the People of Ontario and the Parliament of Ontario.*