

Bernard John Baines (Barney)

June 22, 1925 – April 18, 2020

It is with the heaviest of hearts and deep, deep sadness that we share with you the passing of this wonderful, talented man. Dad passed away seemingly at peace, having shared last moments with his wife and some of his children. It is believed that a stroke, leading to a bad fall may have caused his death.

Dad was born in Duncan, BC, to parents George and Linda (Murton), on June 22, 1925. He lived a life full to brimming with accomplishments, in his education, in his work and in his talents. He was a gifted singer, a published poet, and a musician –



with a special talent for playing the bones and spoons, depending on which was handy at the time – he also played guitar, an Irish drum called a bodhrán, penny whistle, cymbals and even a harmonica for a role in *Oklahoma* – oh yes, he also

acted and sang. Besides these arts, he was

very creative with wood and metals; what he couldn't buy, he made. He also liked gardening and was proud to keep his yard well-manicured and one of the nicer ones on the block. He was no stranger to hard work. Of all the pieces that made up the whole of this amazing man, it was his sense of humor that many remember.

When he and mum celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, one of his daughters said to him, "Fifty years, Dad! That's a long time to be married." He replied, "Ya, you can commit first degree murder and only get 25!" That was the essence of Dad.



Upon hearing of his passing, people have come from far and wide, reaching out from three continents, to pay their respects, send condolences, and share their own memories. He was always, always happy to volunteer his services, helping friends and family with any number of projects. His lifetime membership with the Legion brought him together with many people with whom he and Mum shared an active social life. So great was his contribution over the decades to the Legion, that a Member of Parliament formally presented him with a Lifetime Achievement Award.