

Tribute to Heather Fogo

For my dear friend Heather

No one could have a better friend than Heather. She was generous, kind, loyal and supportive. She loved doing all kinds of things like yoga, horseback riding and swimming; horticulture (she was a marvelous and avid gardener, and a member of the Manotick Horticultural Society, regularly winning prizes for her flowers and vegetables); church affairs (she was a member of St. James Anglican Church in Manotick and was on the altar guild, the flower committee, sang in the choir and baked for many church affairs); or singing.



Heather was an outstanding soprano. It was always a pleasure to sing next to her as she had wonderful pitch, good rhythm and produced an incredibly beautiful sound. She loved singing anything - Liturgical, Classical, Pops, Jazz, Broadway musicals, movie themes, hymns and requiems. Smart and capable, she could sing in many languages: English, French, most often Latin, and with forays into German, Hebrew, Spanish, and a slew of others.

Heather sang with a variety of groups starting with her church choir. When she was in her early twenties, she joined an ensemble of singers under the direction of the Nicholas Goldschmidt to sing around the new centennial flame on Parliament Hill at midnight on December 31, 1966. O Canada rang out as the calendar turned into Centennial Year. This group kept on singing together, calling themselves the "Canadian Centennial Choir." Heather was a founding member of the CCC and in 2014, she became an Honorary Life Member of this wonderful choir. Taking only a short recess

while her children were small, she continued to sing with this choir through their 25th and 50th anniversaries until now. Always helping out as usual, she held the role of soprano section leader for many years. We will surely miss her contribution to the soprano section and the whole choir.

This was not the only choir she graced with her beautiful voice. In the mid-nineties, she sang with a group called Vox Humana under the direction of Brian Hubelit. She sang with the Anglican Chorale of Ottawa from 1994 to 2014, and travelled eight times to the United Kingdom to sing Sunday Services and Evensong in glorious Cathedrals including Gloucester, Ely, Wells, Winchester, Durham, Hereford, and Worcester Cathedrals in England along with York Minster, St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London and several notable parish churches; in Ireland at St. Nicholas Collegiate Church, Galway, St. Patrick's Cathedral, and Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin; at St. Anne's Cathedral in Belfast, Northern Ireland; St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, in Edinburgh, Scotland and in Brecon Cathedral in Brecon, Wales.

If that were not enough, Heather also sang with the National Arts Centre's Festival Chorus with Laurence Ewashko under the baton of Pinchas Zuckerman for several of their productions, including Beethoven's 9th Symphony (Ode to Joy), several Requiems and the Messiah. She also sang with the Ottawa Choral Society from 2015-2018.

Heather was not only a wonderful singer, she was a wonderful person, donating time and money to organizations and people that needed help. In addition to her church work, she delivered meals-on-wheels to people around Manotick for many years, she volunteered at a therapeutic horseback riding program; and she helped out at bake sales and fundraising activities for all her favourite organizations.

Not only will Heather's family miss her (mother Constance, son Adam, daughter Amy, grandson Cael, sister Jane and brother Alex), but all of us who have had the pleasure of working with, singing with or just being with her, will miss her terribly. To remember and honour our dear friend and chorister, we are dedicating the March Canadian Centennial Choir concert to Heather for being the wonderful person and singer she was.

In both sorrow and gratitude for her friendship,

Carol (Fahie)