

In Memoriam

RAY SCHONEVILLE

1952 — 2007

By Dale Wood, Lead, Harbour Lights Quartet

The Barbershop Society has lost yet another member to the great chorus in the sky. On April 11, **Ray Schonewille**, a member of the *Hamilton Harbourtown Sound Chorus*, passed away from injuries associated with an automobile accident that occurred two weeks previously. Although Ray appeared to be improving slowly, he succumbed to his injuries.

Ray was an active quartet and chorus bass, having sung with several choruses including Burlington, MegaCity and most recently with the Hamilton Harbourtown Sound. Ray was the bass for *Kings Highway* quartet back in the 90s and most recently sang with the *Harbour Lights Quartet*. Known to most as the gentle giant, Ray was always ready to sing a song with whomever might ask.

Ray was the beloved sweetheart of his wife **Judy** and Papa Bear to his daughter **Becky** and Best Buddy to his son **Matthew**.

A service to celebrate Ray's life took place at the West Highland Baptist Church, Hamilton, on April 16, 2007. ✻

JOHN FORD

1929 — 2007

With files from Bob Gibson and the obituary notice

John William Ford, long-time Barbershopper in Thornhill and Toronto passed away on April 14, 2007. He leaves his best friend, and wife, **Henriette Rochon**, nine children and 13 grandchildren.

A lover of music, especially jazz, classical and opera, he made his own contribution to the world of music through four-part harmony. He added his unforgettable bass voice to barbershop quartets and choruses from high school until the end of his life.

He founded a barbershop chapter in Thornhill and will be missed by a large community of fellow singers all over the Toronto area.

A memorial mass took place at St. Basil's Church in Toronto on April 28, 2007. ✻

JIM BARNES

1925 — 2007

By Garry Armstrong, President Oshawa Chapter

Jim Barnes, a long-time member of the Oshawa Chapter, passed away on April 24, 2007. The funeral was held at Northminister Church in Oshawa. ✻

ARTHUR M. PATTERSON

1927 - 2007

By Ron Starling, Bass, The Four Chorders

A beloved member of *The Four Chorders* quartet, **Art Patterson** passed away April 12, 2007 at Credit Valley Hospital, Mississauga, after a long battle with Parkinson's disease.

Music was a major part of Art's life. At an early age, he played piano and was very accomplished by the time he entered Beck Collegiate where his music abilities came to the attention of music teacher, **Don Wright**. Art was soon in the orchestra, the glee club and a pianist for Beck's famous singing auditoriums. [ED: Both *Donna* and I experienced these, although many years later.]

At the request of Don Wright, Art put together a barbershop quartet to sing on *Beck Variety Night* shows and The Four Chorders quartet was born.

It was at a Beck Variety Night show where **W.L. (Lester) Davis**, Treasurer of John Labatt Ltd., first heard us sing and invited us to a *London Chapter* meeting. Les entered us in our first quartet contest at Massey Hall, Toronto, and we were selected to represent Canada at the 1949 International Contest in Oklahoma City, USA. It was there that we met all the major Barbershoppers, including **O.C. Cash** and his daughter, **Betty Ann**. Betty Ann acted as our hostess along with three of her school chums. Needless to say, we had a wonderful time!

O.C. Cash seemed to like our rendition of the "Whiffenpoof Song" and had us sing it several times.

During his teaching career, Art taught in both the elementary and secondary levels.

In retirement, he entertained at many retirement homes, did arrangements and coaching for vocal groups, and created musical arrangements for bands.

Art recently said to me, "What would we have ever done with our lives without The Four Chorders?"

I agreed that it would have been a much duller life without the quartet. Art will be greatly missed by his family, his many friends and the other members of *The Four Chorders*: tenor **Bill Smith**, lead **Wils Starling** and yours truly, bass **Ron Starling**.

A Memorial Service to celebrate Art's life will be held on June 16, 2007 at 2 p.m. at Meadowvale Cemetery, 7732 Mavis Road, Brampton (just north of Hwy. 407). ✻

They will be missed. ✻