



Robert "Bob" Charles Ghidoni

October 2, 1913 - November 29, 2018

GHIDONI: Robert Charles. It is with the fondest of memories that the family of Bob Ghidoni announces that our Dad and Grampa, at 105 years, passed away peacefully on November 27, 2018.

He was born as Roberto Carlo Ghidoni in Winnipeg, Manitoba on October 2, 1913 to Pietro and Giuditta (nee Copelli) Ghidoni. Pietro and Giuditta were originally from Brescia and Parma, Italy respectively. Robert, known as "Bob" was the third of six children and the last surviving.

He was predeceased by his parents, sisters Pierina, Angelina, Paolina and brothers Edwardo and Alberto and his wife Doris.

Bob married Doris Bottomley on June 10, 1942 and were married for 50 years until Doris' passing on April 8, 1993. They had two children, Keith and James with grandchildren from Keith (Rebecca, Ethan and Levi) and James (Christine (Curtis) and Robert).

Bob moved to Brandon in 1933 as a musician. He toured the surrounding area and played clarinet and saxophone with The Olympian Imperial Band. This band was one of the first bands to be broadcast live nationwide on CBC Radio Canada. As a professional musician he would stand in for visiting orchestras on tour.

Bob was also a member of the Toast Scrapers Club Band that was popular around 1938 on CKX Radio, Monday and Wednesday mornings. Bob also worked as a freelance photographer landing some of his photos in area newspapers. He photographed Gracie Fields when visiting Manitoba.

In May of 1935 he, brother-in-law Jim Bottomley and family friend, Bert Stamp, started the Brandon Musical Supply on the two hundred block of Sixth Street. The store soon branched into sales of many types of household appliances, radios and included a service shop.

In 1942, he enlisted into the Army for World War II.

In 1946, a building was purchased on Rosser Avenue for a grand re-opening of the Brandon Musical Supply and a full line of furniture was added at that time. In 1956, he became sole owner of Brandon Musical Supply and continued until 1969 when he divested of that and became a financial planner for Investors Syndicate. Bob retired from Investors Group after 26 years at the age of 83.

Over the years he was involved with several service groups, Rotary Club, Scottish Rite of Free Masons, Brandon Lodge 19, and the Brandon Lions Club. He was on the Board of Directors of the Brandon Chamber of Commerce for a number of years.

He was Chairman of the Better Business Bureau within the Chamber and also Chairman of the Entertainment Committee. Bob was a member of the Brandon Rotary Club from 1948 to 1969, club president for the 1956-57 term and served as chairman of several committees within the club.

He was keenly interested in the Brandon Musical Festival and chaired both the membership and entertainment committees. Bob opened the family home to entertain guests from other parts of the world on behalf of the various clubs and groups. He and wife Doris were active within St. Matthew's Cathedral. He was in the choir and spearheaded the purchase and installation of the authentic pipe organ in St. Matthew's Cathedral.

He enjoyed family times, woodworking, boating and the cottage at Clear Lake. Bob's family and friends were always his greatest interest and love. He was always grateful for the opportunities that came his way and for his good health. He remained in his own home until a couple of days before passing.

Dad and Grampa will always be fondly remembered by his loving family for his unwavering support and unconditional love for family.

The service to honour Bob's life will be held at St. Matthew's Cathedral, 403-13th Street, on Wednesday, October 30, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

Events

OCT **Memorial Service** 02:00PM
30

St. Matthew's Cathedral

403-13th Street, Brandon, MB, CA

Comments



“ "Uncle Bob" was a very special person in our lives, from the time that the Wickett family moved to Brandon in 1950. Bob and Doris hosted many gatherings, including square dancing, and delicious family meals at their home. There was always great fun fishing and water skiing at Clear Lake. Bob had many talents, music and culinary arts, including his authentic tasty Italian dishes. We valued his gentle advice on purchases of cameras, appliances and investments. With our fond memories, love and sincere condolences to all the Ghidonis, Valerie & Clair Davies and all our family in British Columbia.

Clair & Val Davies - October 27 at 09:38 PM



“ Keith,
so sorry to read of the loss of your father, but amazing that he lived so long and could stay in his own home. That must have been such a comfort to him and to you ... to know he was safe and happy right up to the end.
Wendy Brown

Wendy Brown - October 26 at 02:10 PM



“ Very sorry to hear of Bob's passing. Our sincere and heartfelt condolences to Jim and family.
I have so many fond memories of the Ghidoni home during my school years; having stopped there most mornings on my way to school during the middle years; and having spent much time just hanging out there. Wonderful memories of the warmth and happiness in the Ghidoni home remain a blessing to me to this day. In an age when "children were to be seen and not heard" was still common practice, I was always amazed at how welcoming and friendly Bob and Doris were to me; every time I showed up at their door. (and I was not an easy kid to like ... does Eddie Hascal ring a bell?)
I can close my eyes and smell the wonderful aroma of coffee and toast (made with freshly sliced bread); and see Bob and Doris' smiling faces inviting me in, while waiting to start the walk to school. Life took me in a different direction and many years went by, but it was always on my bucket list to visit Bob during one of my trips back to Brandon; just to say thanks for the unfailing kindnesses, and let him know how much that meant to me.
I did finally get that done in 2010. I considered it a privilege to be in his presence once again, and to be back in the home that holds so many wonderful memories.

Happy Trails Bob!

Doug (and Lorraine) McGill



“ So sorry for your loss. But what an amazing journey he had.
Deb and John George

Debbie George - December 11, 2018 at 11:01 AM



“ My dad, William Clifford Carbno was taken with Bob Ghidoni, and interviewed him when Bob was like only 95 years old. My dad was at the time writing the history of the Brandon Lions club, and they had many interesting discussions about what society was like, what people's concerns were with the passing decades. Ghidoni was one of the founding members of Brandon Lions Club, and last surviving founding member, and he talked about how the Lion's club tried in each decade to meet the challenges of society, and to help people. Brandon and the world is certainly a better place because of Bob Ghidoni, and he was instrumental in much fun, laughter, and help to many families through depressions, wars, personal sickness, tragedies and economic downturns.

Collin Carbno

Collin Carbno - December 09, 2018 at 09:56 PM



“ Jim
So sorry to hear of the loss of your Dad.
The first memory that popped into mind was travelling up to Clear Lake in the Volkswagen Van and going down the long hill and your Dad getting excited as speed built up to the point we were able to pass a car, I think it was the highlight of his drive when he could pass with the Volks.
Your father was one of the kindest gentlemen I think I ever met.
Sincerely
Harry Curtis

Harry Curtis - December 09, 2018 at 01:57 PM



“ Jim and Family

Please accept our condolences. I fondly remember your Mom and Dad when I lived in Brandon and they were always kind to me.
My Clear Lake visits always included a time with them at the cabin.

I especially remember your Dad from the Brandon Musical Supply as that is where I bought all my records. Also I remember your Dad as a musician and playing in the Shriners Band with my Father.

Your Dad lived a long and wonderful life and hopefully he will be remembered as a kind and gentle soul.

Sincerely,

Murray & Sue McAuley

Murray McAuley - December 08, 2018 at 02:07 PM