



HOPKINS, B.Gen (Ret.) O.A. "Hoppy" OMMCD

Died at Ottawa on May 15, 2006, as a result of complications from an aneurysm.

Padre Hopkins had a distinguished 32 year career in the Canadian Armed Forces, including service with the RCHA in Korea in 1953 and the first Canadian contingent of the United Nations Emergency Force in the Sinai. He was the first Chaplain awarded the Order of Military Merit and ended his military career as Chaplain General.

After retiring from the military in 1984, Padre Hopkins began a second career as Rector of the Parish of Bradford. During his deeply rewarding 10 year tenure, Padre Hopkins transformed this small Parish, doubling the size of both the Church and the congregation. He was recognized for his efforts by the whole town of Bradford when he received their first ever "Citizen of the Year Award". Most special to him though was a surprise celebration of the 40th anniversary of his Ordination organized by the congregation which included friends from all over the world.

Padre Hopkins' professional achievements were made possible by the hard work and sacrifice of himself, his sister Edith, and his parents Archie and Sarah, all of whom predeceased him. Financially, only one child could be educated and Edith, herself an outstanding student, sacrificed her own education to enable her brother to be educated, a sacrifice that was never forgotten and not possible to fully repay. Padre Hopkins repaid it as best he could by excelling in school, earning an Honours BA and LST, the Chancellor's Award for Academic Excellence from Bishop's University, and later helping Edith's husband Arnold himself become an Anglican minister.

Throughout his career, and to the end, Padre Hopkins was most proud of his wife Ernestine, who survives him, and his two children, Michael and Sareena. During the 48 years of their marriage, Ernestine was an active partner in her husband's career. Michael, who lives in Santa Barbara, California with his wife Mary Lee, was an energy attorney with Bennett Jones LLP in Calgary for 18 years and now is CEO of a private technology company. Sareena, who lives in Ottawa with her husband Nigel, is Co-Director of the Canadian Career Development Foundation and provided the family one of their greatest joys—their daughter Ella Grace.

Padre Hopkins' retirement was marred by a series of increasingly serious health problems, which culminated in his death. During this sad stage of his life, Ernestine, with tremendous support from Sareena, physically and spiritually carried her partner.

Padre Hopkins will be sorely missed by the many whose lives he touched.

A Requiem Eucharist was held on Thursday, May 18, 2006 at Christ Church Cathedral, Sparks Street, Ottawa. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Project Upstream or to the charity of your choice. Arrangements in care of the Central Chapel of Hulse, Playfair & McGarry, Ottawa. (613) 233-1143 mcgarryfamily.ca