

In Memoriam - David George MacDonald

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Mon 8/11/2003 3:20 PM

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In Memoriam - David MacDonald

David George MacDonald, 51, former faculty member at the Department of Music, died recently.

A native of Port Morien, Cape Breton Island, organist, teacher, and conductor, MacDonald was one of Canada's leading organ soloists and church musicians. He recorded many CDs of solo organ and choral music, concertized in North America and Europe where he was considered a specialist in the music of J.S. Bach. Mr. MacDonald held degrees in music from Dalhousie and McGill Universities, and Diplome d'orgue from The Conservatoire National Superior de Rueil-Malmaison in France, where in 1979 he was awarded a Prix d'Excellence. David was the recipient of numerous prestigious music awards, including an East Coast Music Award in 1999. He was involved with Symphony Nova Scotia since its inception as continuo player, soloist, and guest conductor. He performed concerts in France, the UK, Germany, Sweden, Holland, Switzerland and the Czech Republic and across Canada. He was a longtime member of the Royal Canadian College of Organists. He also held faculty positions at Dalhousie University, the Atlantic School of Theology and the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts, all in Halifax. Chief among his church positions were Rockingham United, the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul, Montreal, and First Baptist Church, Halifax. David's interests included sports and politics throughout the years. He was a member of St. Matthew's United Church, Halifax.

David is survived by his mother, Eleanor (MacIntosh) MacDonald, Port Morien; his beloved son, Ian MacDonald of Halifax, and sister, Lorna MacDonald of Toronto. He was predeceased by his father, George, in November 2002.

Visitation will be held at Snow's Funeral Home, 2666 Windsor Street on Tuesday, Aug. 12 from 2-4 and 7-9 with the funeral service and musical celebration of his life at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 13 from St. Matthew's United Church, 1479 Barrington Street, Halifax. A reception will follow at St. Matthew's. A service of remembrance will be held at St. John's United Church, Port Morien on Friday, Aug. 15 with committal to follow in Black Brook Cemetery.