



Cecilia “Perry” Cleven

(1921 -)

Cecilia Cleven, known as “Perry,” was born in Toronto and educated in Los Angeles, California.

After moving back to Canada, she joined the Royal Canadian Air Force Women’s Division in 1942 and served as a Meteorological Observer in many parts of Canada for the duration of the war.

In 1948, she and her husband Andy Cleven settled in BC. They and their three children moved to Ruskin in 1962 where Perry soon began actively within the community, volunteering for the Mission Hospital Auxiliary.

For over 3 decades, Perry gave her time and energy to countless groups including the Mission Logger’s Sport Assoc., and the Logger’s Sport Show.

Following her husband’s death in 1972, Perry entered politics and served on council for 10 years. Among her many accomplishments during this time, her work as chair of Parks & Recreation saw the completion of the community swimming pool and protection of riverfront access. She served as a council representative for numerous committees and as Deputy Mayor for 6 years.

She also undertook many community services such as: Pleasant View Housing Society, Mission Heritage Assoc., and Mission Arts Council. She was chosen Citizen of the Year in 1975, and Freeman of Mission in 1996.

In 1993 the FVR wrote “For sure it is because of the hard work and dedication of Perry Cleven that our town continues to grow into the fine community we enjoy today.”

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