



Doreen Phelps

(1925 -)

Doreen Phelps, a successful businesswoman and dedicated volunteer, was born in Punnichy, Saskatchewan. The youngest of 4 children, she moved with her family six months after her birth to Mission where she attended school and in 1953 married Earl Phelps with whom she had 3 children.

Taught by her highly influential father "What you achieve will be what you've earned", Doreen developed a strong work ethic and assumed responsibility for accomplishing goals at an early age.

In 1951, she attended the Pittman Business College in Vancouver and, after working in various jobs over the years while raising a family, began a remarkable 33 year career at Eaton's Department Store where through her self-determination and hard work she eventually became a manager.

Through her parents, Doreen had learned "lots about the difference you can make when volunteering" and so while working and raising her family that eventually included two nieces, she also helped out in the community.

She became active in many local groups, including the Mission Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, the Mission Hospital Auxiliary, the Mission Arts Council and the Cindy Verhulst Memorial Fund.

She was also one of the organizers of the first Miss Mission Pageant held in 1957 and worked on it until the last pageant in 1991.

Doreen was awarded an Air Canada *Heart of Gold Award* in 1988 in recognition for her outstanding contributions to the community by "caring enough to get involved" and make the "community a better place to live."

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