



Louise Lacerte

(1947 -)

Louise Lacerte was born on April 23, 1947, in Mission BC to Rudy and Bernice Lacerte, the eldest of three girls. As a child growing up in the 50s, Louise enjoyed the freedom playing outside from dawn to dusk.

Through the role modelling of her parents and grandparents, she developed a strong desire to give back, support others and make a positive impact in her community. At a young age she organized a white elephant fundraiser for the local SPCA. That was just the start of her community involvement.

Louise has had a lifelong interest in music sparked when she first learned to play the piano. Later she learned the trumpet which she played in her school band and then in community bands wherever she lived. She currently enjoys playing the trumpet in the Cascadia Wind Ensemble in Abbotsford.

After graduation, Louise found herself moving throughout British Columbia and Alberta, balancing her life as a mother of three children while working in a wide range of jobs. Later, she had the opportunity to return to school and entered the nursing program at Red Deer, College, graduating in 1977 as a Registered Nurse.

Louise then returned to Mission with her children, picking up where she left off by helping people. She continued her nursing career at Mission Memorial hospital from 1978 to 1991 while returning to university obtaining her degree in Health Sciences with an additional specialty in Occupational Health Nursing.

Her career moved into a variety of health-related services as an educator, Occupational Health Consultant and owner operator of an independent homecare service company. In 2003, Louise accepted the position as Chief of Health Services for the Correctional Service of Canada, where she remained until her retirement in 2013.

Following her retirement, Louise continued her volunteerism activities as a Rotarian, as a board member for a number of community organizations including Mission Community Services, Mission Literacy in Motion, and the Mission Community Foundation.

She is a highly valued Rotarian having received the Peter Harris Fellow five times - the highest accolade a Rotary Club can bestow. In 2024, Louise was awarded a lifetime Achievement Award by the City of Mission for the work she's done within the community.

Looking back at her life full of accomplishments and work, she says her biggest achievement is her children and grandchildren. They are the loves of her life and each has made positive impacts on the lives of people within their own families and communities.

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A Program of the Mission Community Archives to Document the Women of Our Community
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