



Flowers placed on altar
of Eagle Bay Community Church
in memory of Phyllis Naples.

Eagle Bay lost an old and dear friend with the death of Phyllis Naples, March 25 at the age of 81.

It is fitting that we remember Phyllis at this time and think back in appreciation to the many things she and husband, Vince, did to make Eagle Bay a better place to live.

Phyllis, with parents, John and Ethel Johnston, brothers, Frank and Bill, came to Eagle Bay in 1927, largely due to a polio scare. They lived in a home where "Shimmering Waters" is today.

Phyllis attended the small one-room school at the end of Galligan Road, with Mrs. McRae as teacher. The school-house doubled as a community centre and Phyllis remembered with extreme affection, the all-night family dances and local concerts.

Later, a new school house was built on the property of Lucy and Bill Whitehead. Phyllis told me of writing her grade eight exams for high school entry. It was necessary for her to travel by paddle-wheeler, the "Andover," to Celista, where she stayed with teacher, Elsie Dalin, for three days while completing the tests.

In 1931, the Johnston family moved to Kamloops where Phyllis completed her High School Matriculation and subsequently, her nurse's training in Kamloops.

In the 1930's, the Johnstons built a summer cottage on the property that eventually became the home of Phyllis and Vince Naples. The Johnstons retired to this cottage and Phyllis's over-sixty-five year love affair with Eagle Bay was insured.

Phyllis was a dedicated nurse. When she graduated from Kamloops hospital, a doctor advised her to spread her wings and nurse in as many places as possible. She followed this advice and nursed in Lytton, (one of her favorite nursing jobs), Tranquille, Shaughnessy, St. Paul's, and Vancouver General Hospital. For 10 years, at V.G.H., Phyllis worked in obstetrics and admitting.

In 1942, Phyllis married Vince Naples and raised three sons,



Phyllis I. Naples

Kenneth, Robert and Gordon. When ill health forced she and Vince to retire in 1969, they moved back to Eagle Bay where they lived until 1992.

The Naples enjoyed the social life of the Eagle Bay Community Hall in the days when it was too big and cold to heat in winter, when the water had to be packed to all the events and when card parties were well attended. You roasted in summer and froze in the winter, but it was all worth it in Phyllis's eyes.

She loved the old "Eagle Bay Days," and always tried to attend even though she was living elsewhere. When "Eagle Bay Day" was started up again in the 1980's, Phyllis immediately made a beautiful crocheted tablecloth to raffle as the door prize. The family tried to keep the annual ball game going at Turgeon's Field. These activities, she felt, kept a community together - the fund raising was secondary.

Phyllis loved to play bridge, and many ladies of the area played in a group that she so enjoyed. She was at her happiest when three or four tables could be rounded up for an afternoon.

In 1992, when ill health made it necessary for Phyllis and Vince to move closer to their family in Surrey, a bit of the heart of Eagle Bay went with them. The affection that this

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View from Eagle Bay



lovely lady had for our area was genuine and life-long. Her family may be comforted knowing it was a reciprocal feeling.

The card printed in her memory says it all:

Phyllis

For your loving ...

For your caring ...

For your giving ...

For your support ...

For your strength ...

In our hearts, you'll always be remembered.

Ms. Jeannette Hester



Memories of long ago

It was my pleasure to spend an afternoon visiting long-time Eagle Bay resident, Phyllis Naples, before she and husband, Vince, moved to Surrey. Fortunately, the family has retained the Naples' property and we look forward to seeing Phyllis and Vince as summer visitors.

Phyllis told many, many interesting stories of her Eagle Bay school days with such pleasure and affection that I truly feel that those of us who missed the experience, were somehow short-changed in our lives.

It was a "polio scare" that convinced parents, John and Ethel Johnston to bring their family of three, Bill, Frank and Phyllis to Eagle Bay in 1927. They lived in a log home where "Shimmering Waters" is today.

The Eagle Bay school house and teacherage were located at the bottom of Galligan Road, near the old Post Office. This was the business hub of the area as the boats docked there with supplies. It is my understanding that this original school burned down a number of years ago, but the log teacherage was moved several times, and is now located on the Wolsey property west of the Mini Mart.

Phyllis recalls the teacher was Mrs. McRae, and fellow pupils who come to mind were Bill, Winnifred, Frances, Barbara and George Whitehead, with Mary and Johnny coming later. Also, she remembers the Mould family from Wild Rose Bay, the Bahrent family from Glenwood and the Day family from Crescent Ranch, who travelled by horseback. Winnifred Whitehead doubled as janitor and prepared cocoa for all at noon hour.

Community social events took place at the school house. Dances were attended by all family members, with a wind-up



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gramophone, a violin, or a mouth organ providing the music, and old favorites as the "heel-toe polka" and "Waltz quadrille" to keep the dancers on the move. The ladies brought a lunch and a collection was taken to buy gas for the lamp. Everyone stayed until daylight as boats were the usual mode of transportation, and travelling in darkness was extremely dangerous.

Occasionally, a "basket social" was held and each girl brought a decorated basket with lunch for two. The baskets were auctioned and the young man who bought the lunch shared it with the young lady who prepared it. Similarly, a "tie social" found young ladies, (with help from their mothers), making ties for the young men to buy at auction. Phyllis had a good chuckle remembering these gaudy creations; the young people of today would call them "gross," she said.

Entertainment often included Jack Leslie, postmaster, reciting "Little Log House on the Claim," or Mr. Bahrent reciting "One Horse Shay," coached by Mrs. Mould.

Christmas was, of course, a very special time. The school boys were sent to cut and fetch a tree, which everyone had a hand in decorating. Students studied Eaton's catalog for months. Each carefully chose one or two gifts which were ordered by Mrs. McRae, and paid for with money collected from local loggers.

A Christmas concert was held,

followed by an "all night" dance. Eagle Bay folk were careful that their Christmas party did not coincide with those at Anglemont and Celista, as families could attend each one.

In 1929, a new school opened where Lucy Whitehead's house is now located. Phyllis happily remembers the Christmas celebrations that year, as Ernie Whitehead transported people on a sleigh, with beautiful sleigh bells.

When Phyllis wrote her Grade 8 exams, it was necessary for her to travel by paddle-wheeler, (probably the "Andover") to Celista, where she stayed with teacher, Elsie Dalin, for three days. Most travel was done by boat, a lot by horse-drawn vehicles, and just plain walking.

Then Ernie Whitehead brought in the first car, an old "Chevy," followed later by brother Nick, bringing in the first sedan, a new one at that! At that time Phyllis believes the road only came as far as the present Bottomly home, which then belonged to postmaster Jack Leslie.

In 1931, Phyllis and family bade goodbye to Eagle Bay and moved to Kamloops, where she completed her schooling and trained as a nurse.

As we prepare for another Christmas season, and watch the local school children board the school bus daily, we think back to another way of life in another era. Things have not changed that much. Our greatest pleasures and most satisfying experiences still come from friends, fellowship and sharing.

Thanks, Phyllis, for helping us remember!

An Eclectic Collection of Memories from Phyllis Naples.

- by Renee Hester.

Before Phyllis and Vince Naples left Eagle Bay to relocate in Surrey, I spent a delightful afternoon with her as she recalled with great affection her love of Eagle Bay and the many happy times she spent there. Many of the stories I have of early Christmases, school days, Eagle Bay Days and activities in the Community Hall were from Phyllis's recollections.

I love to look at my notes and remember her sparkling eyes as she told me these stories of her life. The enhanced stories from these notes are in other areas of this book.

- Eagle Bay Days, circa 1949/52---????dates
- Boat rides for 50 cents, Mr. Affleck and Otto Ellingson
- Simon's Beach owned by Major Howden and Mrs. Howden
- proceeds to building of new community hall
- pies, homemade candy and cakes for sale
- ball games in Turgeon's field later organized by Naples' boys
- cake walks and horseshoes
- BINGO
- building of hall; - Bill Whitehead, foundation
- Hans Whitehead, Roy Emerson, Franks Leslie building

Christmas at Eagle Bay School

- boys get Christmas tree
- room decorated with cedar bows
- Christmas gifts for children picked out of Eaton's catalogue
- gifts paid for by loggers
- Mrs. McRae teacher
- gifts ordered by teacher
- teacher collected money from loggers

Christmas concert, then danced all night until daylight
Winnie Whitehead made cocoa at noon for school children
Basket socials-girls with lunch for 2 -auction lunch for partner
All social life at school
Dances waltz quadrille, heel-toe polka
1928/29 dances at school house
Wind-up gramophone, mouth organ, fiddle
Ladies made lunch
Collected money for gas for lamp
Children slept on benches, no baby sitters
Stayed until daylight and went home in boats.

Jack Leslie sang at socials at school house. Favourite "Little Log House on the Claim", coached by Mrs. Mould. Mr. Bahrent recited "Wonderful One Hoss Shay", coached by Mrs. Mould.

Indian families with dugout canoes fished with spears and used torches to see. Ernie Whitehead pointed them out to Phyllis.

Loggers logged with horses. No horses for first 6 or 7 years as no feed for horses.

-1927 Phyllis moved to Eagle Bay with parents, Johns and Ethel Johnston

-age 13

-Brother Bill, 15, Brother Frank, 5 ½ .

-father an engineer

-moved to Eagle Bay because of polio scare, left in 1930

-old schoolhouse at bottom of Galligan Road

-teacher Mrs. McRae who lived in teacherage, later moved to Eagle Bay Road beside

-where present store is located. Now Wolsey home.

-First free-standing post office beside old school on Jack Leslie homestead. Jack Leslie postmaster. First post office in David Lamey's cabin.

-Whiteheads had cabin called The Limit where Nick's property is today. John

Whitehead, Sr., Nick, Ernie and Hans cut timber there for fence posts etc. Grandma

Whitehead packed enough food for a week

-when mail came in on boat, groceries came as well from Sorrento

-Resort at Wild Rose Bay at end of road.

-Mould family lived at end of road. Children, Charles, Nancy and Jewel. Mother taught school

-Bahrent homestead at end of road. Children , Dick, Dorothy Homestead where

- Glenwood is today. (Bahrent daughter attended Nick Whitehead's Celebration of Life but has since passed away)

-other children attending school at old school house-

-Bill Whitehead

-Winifred Whitehead

-Francis Whitehead (Jackson)

-Barbara Whitehead (Harper)

-George Whitehead

-Mary Whitehead (Turgeon)

-(Johnny Whitehead too young to attend)

Eagle Bay Estates site owned by George Visch (buried in Eagle Bay Church Cemetery)

Other Pass-times!

-tie socials. Girls made gaudy ties which were auctioned off for partners



- no radios until 30's
- Ernie had an old Chevy. He also had a cutter with sleigh bells which he used to carry Phyllis to socials. A very happy memory for Phyllis. A cutter with sleigh bells was unique.
- Nick had the first sedan
- closed original schoolhouse in 1929
- new schoolhouse on Bill Whitehead property where Lucy Whitehead's home is now
- Miss Perry teacher with 11 in school
- Phyllis wrote 8 exams at Celista. Stayed with Elsie Delin (school teacher). Went over by paddle wheeler, probably the Andover. Everything done by boat.

Day children came to school at Eagle Bay on horseback. Lived at Crescent Ranch next to the present home of Frances Archer.

Log house (Simon property today) owned by Gradine family. Carl Gradine walked to school with Phyllis. That was quite a hike!

Phyllis and parents left Eagle Bay in 1930 and moved to Kamloops. Parents built a cabin at Eagle Bay. She finished high school and trained as a nurse in Kamloops Hospital.

- Dr. in hospital advised nurses to spread their wings and nurse in other hospitals;
- worked in Kamloops, Lytton, Tranquille, VGH, and ST. Paul's.
- enjoyed Lytton the best; a bit hair-raising. Became dispensary for town (1939)
- weighed out medications. Remember Queen Elizabeth and King George VI's visit. Town sang "When the Moon Came Over the Mountain".
- Went to VGH ; wanted to work in obstetrics. Was a float, 2 nights with premmies, 2 nights floor, 1 night admitting office.

-parents built house at Eagle Bay in 1930. Eventually retired from CPR. Lived in it until they couldn't look after themselves. Naples family built a house in three weeks at Lake and Phyllis and Vince moved there in 1969.

- first store in Frances Jackson's house, 1940.





Phyllis Naples in front of Naples' home on Shuswap Lake with father John Johnston.

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Note from Sharon: Bunny Oakland told me this isn't a picture of Phyllis Naples – that the information noted on the photo is incorrect.

Naples celebrate 50 years,

Residents of Eagle Bay rejoice on hearing of the 50th wedding anniversary of long-time Eagle Bay residents, Phyllis and Vince Naples. Friends and relatives gathered at an "Open House" held at the couple's new home in Surrey and arranged by the Naples' sons, Gordon, Robert and Kenneth. Eighty people attended the celebration on Thursday, Oct. 22, 1992 — folks from Vancouver, Surrey, Gibsons, Kamloops and Washington.

Unfortunately, Phyllis was in Surrey Memorial Hospital and unable to attend the festivities. Guests visited her hospital room in rotation, and a family friend took a video of the event. Once again, the old adage applies — "where there's a will, there's a way"! Both Phyllis and Vince send greetings to all in Eagle Bay, along with compliments of the Christmas season as well, since this time is nearly upon us.

Phyllis attended school in Eagle Bay, and although "pioneer" life in this district was not easy, her memories are happy, and her affection for the area very strong. The ties were certainly deep, because Phyllis and Vince built a retirement home on the property of Phyllis's parents, John and Ethel Johnston, and retired there in 1969. They remained there until moving to Surrey in 1991. During this time, both were active in community activities. Ladies of the area remember how Phyllis thoroughly enjoyed her afternoons of bridge and others remember both of the Naples playing many other card games over the years.

Before the Naples moved, Phyllis spent an afternoon with me, reminiscing on her life here and of her life as an RN in many hospitals in B.C.

One period of her life that particularly tickled my fancy was her days spent nursing at Lytton in the Fraser Canyon. It seems, as a nurse, you did your regular shifts, and on Saturday, you became the town pharmacist. As the dispenser of pre-



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scription drugs, you weighed, packaged and sold the medicines to the townspeople who required them. What a responsibility!

Phyllis loves to tell the story of the visit of Queen Elizabeth and



King George VI in 1939. Lytton was a division point of the railway; a water and fuel stop, so to speak. Accordingly, the Royal Train had a fairly long stop at this wee town, but it had not occurred to the local townspeople that the King and Queen would be doing a "walk about" (to use modern vernacular), and little had been planned in the way of a formal reception. (If I recall correctly, it was evening when the train arrived). However, the Royals left the train, were very friendly, and the town ended up entertaining them with a rendition of "When The Moon Comes Over The Mountain"! A rich memory indeed!

Eagle Bay residents send all good wishes to the Naples, along with many thank-yous for their community work and neighbourliness.

Ms. Jeannette Hester