

In Celebration of Howard G. Correll

June 16, 1919 – October 22, 2006

Howard Correll was born in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The youngest of four children, he was raised by a Christian mother. Howard soon understood that only the children of affluent parents could afford to attend musical conservatories and study with the masters. He frequently sang in school programs and in nearby churches, but professional training to which he aspired seemed forever out of reach. But Howard believed in miracles. A faith had grown through the years and his miracle came through for him in Toronto in 1936. The well-known Canadian tenor, Ernest Schildrick, heard him sing at his family's church which was broadcast by radio. Schildrick invited Howard to visit him. He offered to teach him for twenty-five cents a week. Howard studied with him until Schildrick's health failed.

World War II began in 1939 in Canada. Howard went to enlist and was sent to the Reserve Army because of no uniforms. He enlisted in the regular army's Ordinance Corps in 1941 as a tank officer, eventually becoming a lieutenant in the Tank Corps. As a commissioned officer, he could not be a part of the Entertainment Corps, but sang frequently at the Salvation Army Headquarters on base. At the war's end in 1945, the Canadian government awarded him a scholarship for four years of study of voice and opera at the University of Toronto. That made his entire career.

Howard was featured on such radio programs as "Singing Stars of Tomorrow" and was heard over Trans Canada Network of CBS winning the Kiwanis Music Festival in the Bass Ontario and Operatic Class. He appeared as soloist with the Mendelssohn Choir with Sir Ernest McMillan, Conductor for the Toronto Symphony.

Because of his religious training, he felt ill at ease with the direction his career was going and felt called to give his voice to the Lord. In 1949-50, his reputation as an eloquent, sincere Christian singer of Christian music became firmly established across his native country. "Canada's singer of sacred songs", as he was billed, was welcomed by churches and religious gatherings across the nation.

In 1952, he met Joyce Overby while she was organist at Calvary Baptist Church in Fargo, ND, and in 1954 she became his wife..and accompanist. The teamwork began immediately and continued for 52-plus years.

In the early 50's, a dream developed into a reality as he founded Arrowhead Music Camp. Howard wanted to make musical training available to those who otherwise would not get it. He found an abandoned campsite and envisioned what could be done. While working at the campsite, Howard and Joyce first established a summer program called Sacred Music Institute with nine students its first year at a rented camp. Finally in 1957, Arrowhead Music Camp opened its doors-its refurbished buildings, pristine pine woods, and beach inviting summer campers, and its facility (drawn from

universities and colleges Howard and Joyce had visited on their travels) ready to offer professional quality to both teenage and adult musicians.

This camp was in operation until 1980 when the board decided to donate to Oak Grove Lutheran School.

For nine to ten months of each year, for 45 years, Howard continued to tour the country as a soloist in evangelistic meetings and campaigns. These were too numerous to mention, but God richly blessed their ministry with many rewards.

In 1960, Howard and Joyce made the Fargo-Moorhead area their home. Howard became director of development for Oak Grove Lutheran High School until 1989, thoroughly enjoying his work, and also worked for Park Christian School in the development department. Howard kept on singing until a major stroke affected his voice in 1998.

Also, while living in the Fargo-Moorhead area, he was active in the Cosmopolitan Service Club of which he served as president in 1992-93. Howard also was a member of the Fargo-Moorhead Gideons during that time.

In November of 1995, Howard and Joyce moved to Sun Lakes because of health problems and to be in a warmer climate – also their daughter Dawn had made her home there. Howard's main delight was to be with his children and grandchildren every chance he had.

Howard's mother Grace Correl; a brother, Ray; a sister, Myrtle preceded him in death. He is survived by wife, Joyce; daughter, Dawn Drehobl (husband Steve) of Queen Creek, Arizona; daughter, Shari Corell of Detroit Lakes, Minnesota; son, Paul (wife Gail) of Rosemount, Minnesota; son, Mark (wife Carrie) of Castle Rock, Colorado; sister, Beryl Musgrove of Toronto, Ontario, Canada; eight grandchildren, many nieces and nephews, and a host of friends.

The funeral will be held on Friday, October 27, at 10:00 AM at the Sun Lakes Community Church, Sun Lakes, Arizona.