

Notary Arthur B. Jacobson (Retired): In the Company of Gentlemen

My parents emigrated from Norway in 1908. Born in 1917 on a farm, 20 miles south of Steinback, Manitoba, I worked hard on the family farm, and managed to get a grade 8 education. In 1938, at 21, I moved to Armstrong, BC, in a 1928 Pontiac with my sister's boyfriend. All we had was \$40 each and our clothes. I soon moved to Vancouver Island, which I loved. I worked as a logger until 1942, when at age 24, I joined the Royal Canadian Air Force. I got married that same month to Eva Thompson.

Stationed at Tofino for four years, I worked on Kitty Hawk planes at a training station for pilots. After my discharge in 1945, I went directly into real estate, at Collingwood Realty, Joyce Road and Kingsway, the current site of Skytrain.

On September 9, 1946, at age 29, I opened my own real estate office in the 2100 block Kingsway. I owned Arthur B. Jacobson Realty Ltd. for 31 years, sold it in 1976, then worked for United Realty from 1977 to 1993.

I was also a Notary Public for 21 years; I was Chairman of our first convention—held at Harrison Hot Springs in 1957—and the 1958 and 1959 conventions. Elected President of The Notary Society from 1959 to 1962, I was also a Director from 1956 to 1970.

I was one of the founding members of the Real Estate Institute, with Herb

Fullerton and Bob Pound. My R.I. (B.C.) certificate is #21.

I served on the Real Estate Council for six years when Dermit Murphy was Secretary.



Art with daughter Donna Haynes

I am very proud of the Honourary Life Memberships I received 25 years ago from the Vancouver Real Estate Board and The Society of Notaries, and my Fellowship Award from UBC for being Vancouver Real Estate Board President in 1956, the year the Realtors' first two-day Educational Lectures were held at UBC.

I fondly recall Notary Charlie Brown—also a Vancouver Real Estate Board President for two terms, Education Chairman, and Lecturer of Educational Programs—as a very colourful person.

I want to mention those who helped me so much in life. One of my mentors was Notary Harry Hargreaves, Notary Vernon Hargreaves' father. Harry was President of The Society of Notaries for 14 years. Notary Alex Matthew was a former Social Credit MLA and Speaker of the House; I helped Alex appoint more than 20 new Notaries. Rout Harvey, Vancouver Real Estate Board President for three years, sponsored my Real Estate membership in the Board in 1947. My first real estate boss, in 1945, was Harvey Gale Watson, a marvellous man who was like a dad to me.

My first wife Eva and I were married on March 21, 1942; we raised two daughters, Sheila Wipperman (husband Paul), of Vernon, and Donna Haynes from Surrey. Donna and her husband Jim are both Re/Max Realtors with the FVREB. I have four grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

Eva and I divorced in 1969. In 1973, I married Merina Harrisen who had four grandchildren and three great grandchildren. A Realtor licensed in 1950, Merina was a talented pianist and organist who played in many places in the world when we travelled to the