



## George Scott

George Scott entered this world in November 1921 and departed in March 2012 at St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver, having lived for 90 years through very interesting times.

George was the only son of Peter Scott and Letitia Annie Brown. His father was an immigrant from Scotland and his mother came from an immigrant Irish family, one of the first homesteader families to settle in Ladner in the late 1800s. During his formative years, George lived in Vancouver, attended Britannia High School and spent his summers at the family's farms in Ladner and on the Tsawwassen Bluffs. Perhaps he developed his love of the land and his avocation for gardening from his father, a blacksmith by trade and a designer and manufacturer of horsedrawn carriages, and latterly the proprietor of the family's equestrian and agricultural businesses.

The advent of World War II coincided with George's graduation from high school and delayed his entry to post-secondary schooling. George joined the RCAF and served as a pilot and flying instructor in Canada and England for the RCAF and the Royal Navy Fleet Air Arm, attaining the ranks of flying offi-



cer (RCAF) and sub lieutenant (RNVR). He trained pilots for the RCAF, the RAF, the Free French and the RNVR.

After demobilization and return to Canada, George entered UBC, graduating from the Faculty of Agriculture in 1950 and the Faculty of Law in 1954. Following articles with David W. Tupper at Bull Housser & Tupper and Thomas Marshall at Taylor Marshall & Munro, George was called and admitted in 1955 and entered practice as a solicitor in the same firm. In 1963, George and Tom Marshall joined Elmore Meredith, Q.C., Kenneth Meredith and Benjamin McConnell to form Meredith, Marshall, McConnell and Scott. It was here that George developed his expertise in corporate and securities law, acting for junior exploration companies raising risk capital on the Vancouver Stock Exchange to finance exploration in mining and oil and gas ventures.

In 1981, George joined William Worrall, Q.C., and Lawrence Page, Q.C., to form Worrall Scott & Page as a firm specializing in corporate and securities law. During his ten years as a partner at Worrall Scott & Page (prior to his "semi"-retirement), George acted as a mentor to the younger lawyers in the firm, developing their legal skills with patience and friendship. George was never too busy to spend time with a young lawyer to solve issues that seemed to be insurmountable before the visit to George's office. During his tenure with the firm, many of the "penny dreadful" companies became larger prosperous companies, and many didn't. To all, George devoted his skills and expertise in a professional and collegial fashion, developing an interest in the companies and the personalities of the somewhat colourful principals. When he began acting for public companies, it was at a time when such practice was not quite "fashionable" and the laws governing public companies were rudimentary, with securities law being relegated to a few sections of the *Companies Act*. Through the development of securities law to the present day, when most legal firms have a "securities department", George was both a student and a teacher of the evolving law to his juniors (and partners!). He embraced the introduction of computer technology in his practice and in his retirement years with an active and keen interest in the latest developments.

To describe George simply as a solicitor would be inadequate. He was a gentleman practitioner, always treating his colleagues, clients and fellow lawyers with respect and unfailing courtesy. Civility in the practice of law may be a diminishing feature at a time when the practice of law is evolving into a business with inordinate emphasis upon the time billed rather than value to the client. George was the epitome of the careful, courteous legal practitioner who felt that the needs and requirements of the client were paramount.

George married the love of his life, Helen, in 1949, and together they enjoyed 63 years of love and camaraderie, during which they celebrated the

births and growth of their three daughters, Dianna, Sandra and Gillian. George was inordinately proud, but never boastful, of the achievements of the girls and five grandchildren. His days of retirement were filled with love and laughter with family and friends at the family summer homes on Bowen Island and at Point Roberts, and with many good books.

For many years, George was a member of the 20 Club, a prestigious legal group, in which he served as president and secretary. His interest in military matters, nurtured over many years of research, caused him to compile an extensive documentary and biographical library on European military history with special emphasis on the life and memoirs of Sir Winston Churchill. He was a founding member of the Hollyburn Club, a life member of the Vancouver Club and a member of the Churchill Society.

George also enjoyed receiving each issue of the *Advocate*, especially "The Wine Column", which he followed with enthusiasm. It often resulted in a trip to the local wine store in search of noted selections.

In recent years, George managed his health with care, and up to the day before his passing he was actively involved in family meetings and in consultation with the superb team of doctors and staff of St. Paul's Cardiac Care Unit. George had been selected as a candidate for a "valve-in-valve" or transcatheter mitral valve implant, a revolutionary new heart valve procedure. As a result of timing delays caused by other unexpected complications, however, he was ultimately unable to undergo this procedure and passed on with gentle dignity and peaceful acceptance.

George was a true gentleman, a man who valued honesty, loyalty and integrity, and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Lawrence Page, Q.C.