

Celebration of Life Service

In Loving Tribute to

Berni Volkmann

Monday, October 26, 2026

12: 30 p.m. (Reception to follow)

Minister: The Rev. Ross Leckie

Music Director: Donald Salfarlie

Preparation for Worship:

The desire for love is the most powerful human striving. Giving can then be said to be the highest expression of love. This giving, however, is not that of material things, but lies in the specifically human realm. What does one person give to another? He gives of himself, or the most precious he has; he gives of his life. In this giving, he enriches the other person; he enhances the other's sense of aliveness as well as his own self through the joy of giving.

Adapted from The Art of Loving, Erich Fromm

Piano Preludes: Don Salfarlie

Flute Solo: Carol Clipperton Precious Lord Take My Hand

Words of Christian Hope:

Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.

John 11:25-26

Greetings

Rev. Ross Leckie

Recollections

Christine Gallant

Derek Volkmann

Hymn 1: In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Voices United #703

Opening Prayers

Poem: Grandfather Kept a Garden Jacqueline & Natalie Gallant

Assurance of Pardon

Recollections

Nancy Moon

Keith Mayers

Words of Comfort from Scripture:

Psalm 23 (*see insert - said in unison*)

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

2 Timothy 4: 7-8

Luke 15: 11-32

Keith Mayers

Keith Mayers

Andrea Hester

Meditation

Rev. Ross Leckie

Choir Anthem: I Carry You in My Heart

Kathy Burdette/Donna Butler

Combined Choirs of Grace, St. Paul's & Emmanuel United

Prayer of Comfort and Concern

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn 2: How Great Thou Art

Voices United #238

Blessing

Ringling of the church bell

Martin Kerstens

Recessional

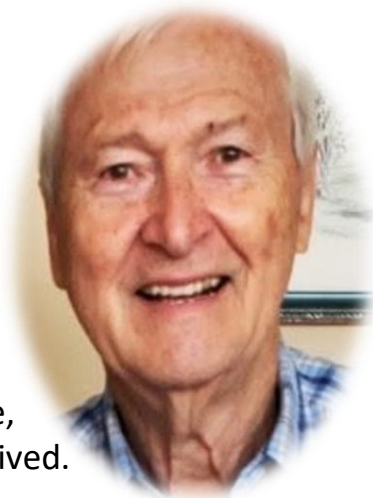
Organ Postlude: Largo (Xerxes)

George Frederick Handel

Following the funeral service, you are invited to join the Volkmann family for a time of fellowship and refreshments in Fellowship Hall downstairs.

† † †

Donations in memory of Berni Volkmann
can be made to Grace United Church
(Memorial cards are available on the back table)



He Is Gone

You can shed tears that he is gone,
Or you can smile because he has lived.

You can close your eyes and pray that he will come back,
Or you can open your eyes and see all that he has left.

Your heart can be empty because you can't see him,
Or you can be full of the love that you shared.

You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday,
Or you can be happy for tomorrow...because of yesterday.

You can remember him and only that he is gone,
Or you can cherish his memory and let it live on.

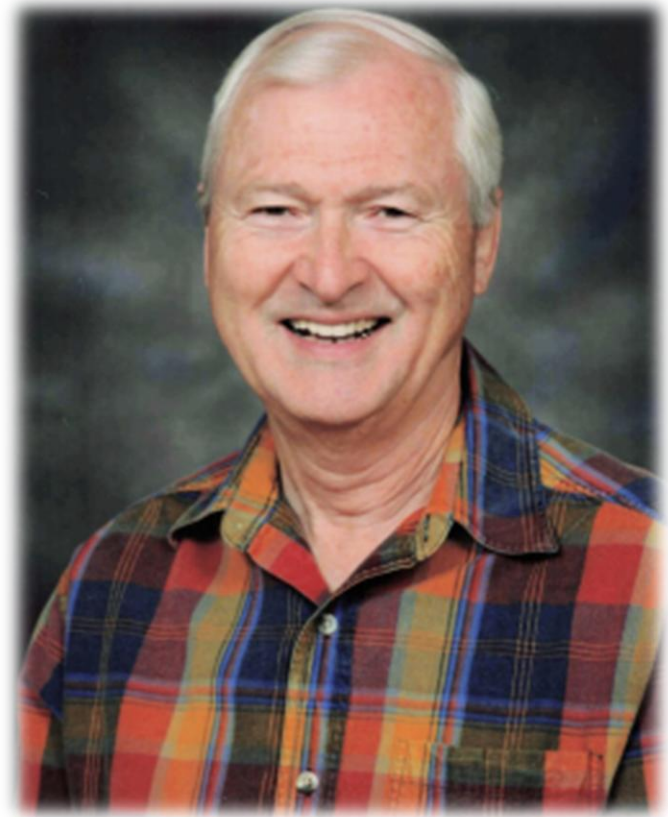
You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back,
Or you can do what he would want:
smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

David Harkins

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

Berni Volkmann

February 24, 1941 – October 16, 2026



Grace United Church

156 Main St. N

Brampton, ON L6V 1N9

Presiding Minister: Rev. Ross Leckie