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PRESS RELEASE

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A Lifetime of Memories at the Memorial Centre Inspires $100,000 Gift to Brockville's Your Space to Play Campaign

BROCKVILLE, ON – More than 70 years ago, Brockville's Memorial Centre became the setting for a moment that would shape the rest of Bill Ferguson's life. It was there that he met his wife, Doreen, beginning their relationship and a family history deeply connected to the community's recreation facilities.

At the time, Bill was a young man from Brockville when he met Doreen, who was from Prescott, while at the Brockville Memorial Centre. He asked her to skate, and after their time on the ice, walked her home. That first meeting marked the beginning of a relationship that would span a lifetime.



Figure 1: Bill Ferguson and his late wife, Doreen, whose memory is being honoured through this generous gift.

Doreen passed away in June 2020, but the memories they created together continue to hold a special place in Bill's life. Now, he is honouring her memory and their family's connection to the rink with a generous $100,000 donation to Brockville's Your Space to Play campaign supporting the new Multi-Use Recreation Facility (MURF).

Reflecting on their connection to the facility, Bill shared:

"My late wife, Doreen, and I have a long and special history with Brockville's old Memorial

Centre, which was built in 1950. It was purely serendipity that our paths crossed at the Memorial Centre and we met. Little did we know that a place where our story began would go on to hold so many special memories for our family."

Over the years, the Memorial Centre remained a meaningful part of their family life. Their son spent many years playing hockey with both the Tikis and the Braves, including the 1973–1974 Rideau St. Lawrence Championship season.

When speaking about his contribution, he is quick to share credit with Doreen, fondly remembering that she was the saver in the family. Having spent so much of his life connected to the rink, Bill hopes to see Brockville benefit from a modern hockey facility that will serve families for generations.

And while Bill is enthusiastic about seeing the new facility become a reality, he couldn't resist asking one final question:

"Will the rink be built before the Leafs win the Stanley Cup?"

The Your Space to Play Cabinet extends its sincere thanks to Bill for his extraordinary generosity, and for choosing to invest in the future of recreation in Brockville. We are honoured to have his support as we work toward bringing this vision to life.

For more information on Brockville's Your Space to Play campaign, visit our website at www.yourspacetoplay.ca.

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