

SILVER ELVIS – Greg McIntyre

"Sharing the memory through my voice"

Remembering Elvis Presley...

The first song that I recall hearing Elvis sing was 'Teddy Bear', when I was eight years old. At that time, I knew very little about the man, except that I enjoyed the sound of his voice. Unknown to my uncle, he was the catalyst, which influenced my interest in the music of Elvis. As well, my parents passed on a love for music – my mother a beautiful singer and my father played the clarinet in the Forest [Ontario] Excelsior Band.

Six years later, the gospel record, 'His Hand in Mine', became the first Elvis record that I owned. My involvement with his music grew steadily from there.

Through elementary school, my love of singing led me to join the school choir each year. Our school was the winner of citywide competitions. Although my parents realized my enjoyment of the music of Elvis, they didn't know the extent of my interest. Sadly, my mother died when I was a teenager and never had the opportunity to witness my performances. Since my singing was mostly for my own enjoyment, my family was unaware of my developing ability.

In years to come, singing would become a regular pastime for me. The music of Elvis was my passion as I practiced his songs repeatedly. This solitary singing allowed me to strengthen and develop my vocal skills, while finding comfort in the music. My goal was to attend the live performances by Elvis and when I succeeded on four different occasions, those concerts became some of the greatest moments of my life.

Over the years, I studied the martial arts and achieved black belt status. On outings with friends, I enjoyed singing and then one summer, in 1997, I decided to attend the Elvis festival in Collingwood. Understandably, I was thrilled to receive a trophy (see Selected Performances, below).

As time went on, other singing opportunities appeared and I began to experience the tremendous satisfaction of performing for audiences. **Through my voice, I project the powerful sound of his music.** Now, others can listen to the songs and recall their own memories of the Elvis era.

I look forward to entertaining you!