

Obituary
Virginia Hulme



In her teens Virginia Walker moved from Brampton to Georgetown with her family and attended Georgetown and District High School, where her father taught history. In 1960 she attended Lakeshore Teachers College. Following that she taught Grade IV at Chapel Street Public School for six years.

At an early age, Virginia exhibited a talent for music and a love of bagpipes. As a result, she joined the Georgetown Girls' Pipe Band in the mid 1950s, where she rose through the ranks and became Pipe Major by 1963.

The band, under Virginia's leadership and teaching talent, grew in ranks and musical strength. The growth and development of the band resulted in the fulfillment of a long anticipated trip to Scotland where it received the Best Overseas Pipe Band Award, at the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow.

Other memorable achievements included winning sixth place for Grade IV pipe bands in 1973 at the C.N.E. Scottish World Festival, and first place in Grade IV at the Burlington Highland Games in 1975.

While leading the band, Virginia became an accomplished soloist. As a student of Willie Connell, former World Champion, she competed in Grade I and won many awards. These were highlighted by winning the Championship Supreme in 1986 for Grade I Piobaireachd.

In addition to her association with the G.G.P.B., Virginia taught piping at Sheridan College from 1975 to 1989. During that time she became the first woman to obtain a teacher's certificate from the Scottish Pipe Band Association.

Virginia leaves a legacy of many talented and well-taught pipers. Among former students of the band and her college courses are current band members, numerous successful soloists and members of some of the top-ranked pipe bands.

Virginia's talent spilled over into other creative endeavors such as painting, drawing, sewing and handicrafts. She was well known as an exhibitor and winner at the local fall fairs.

As recently as February 1991 her design for an autumn door decoration, chosen by Ontario District no. 5, was exhibited at Crafts of Ontario Provincial Show in Toronto.

Virginia was also a devoted wife, mother and family member. She is fondly remembered and sadly missed by many whose lives she touched.

Virginia is survived by her parents, Frances and John Walker, sister Shirley Crichton, brother Bill Walker, husband Francis and sons Bruce and Braden.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, May 4, 1991, 7:00 p.m. at St. George's Anglican Church in Georgetown, followed by a ceildh to celebrate the life of Virginia Hulme.

All those who wish to celebrate the joys of Virginia's life are welcome. In memory contributions to The Virginia Hulme Memorial Fund, c/o Jan Anderson, R.R.1, Erin, Ont. NOB 1TO, will be donated to Special Care Cancer Units.

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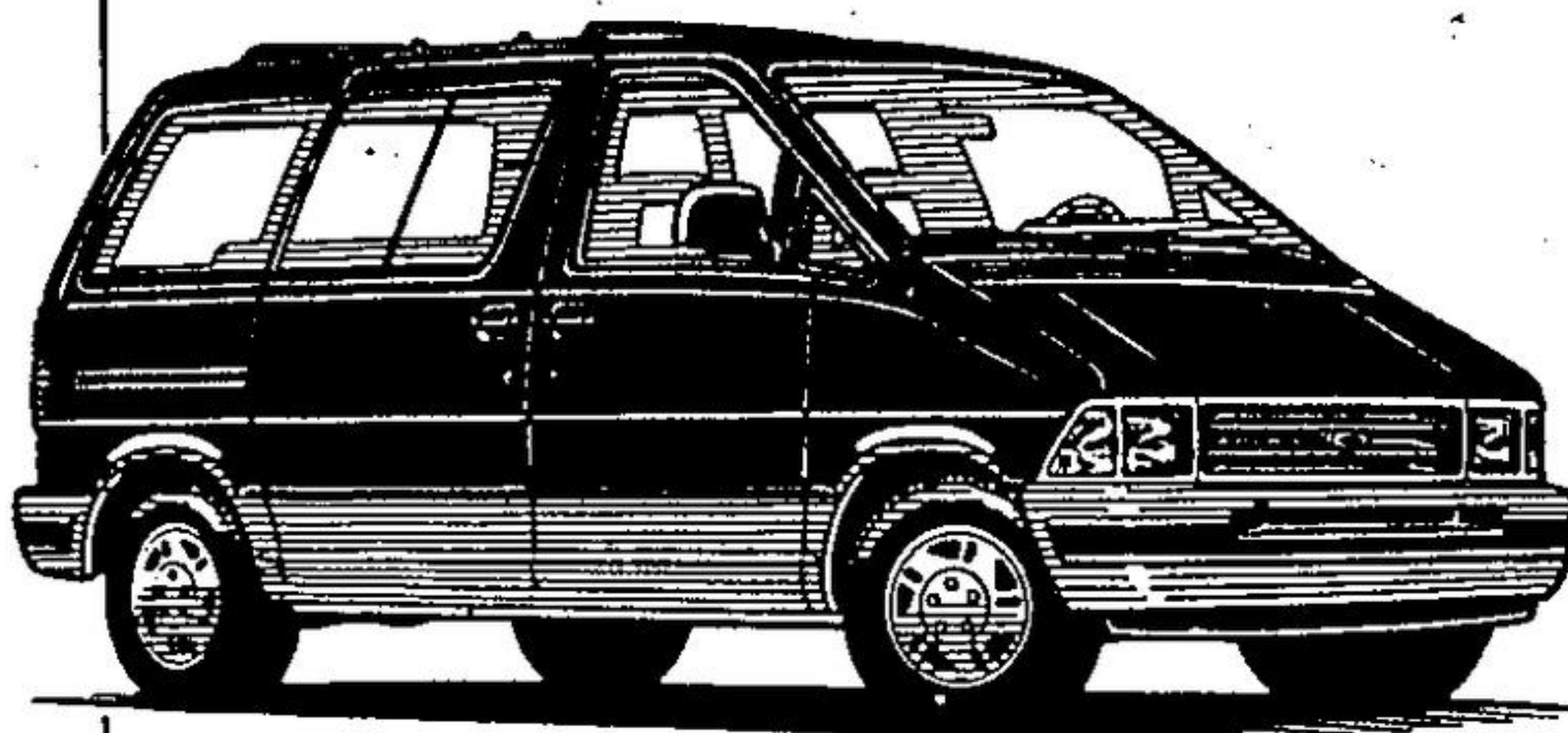
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