WOMEN LEAVE 'INDELIBLE LEGACY' ON THEATRE SCENE

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Hills

The Halton Hills theatre community is mourning the loss of two women who were pioneers on the local stage.

Vera Macdonald and Dorothy Hunt, who both passed away in late May, were members of the Georgetown Little Theatre (GLT) for decades and made their mark both behind the scenes and in front of an audience.

Macdonald, who lived to the age of 90, had a title that not many could boast of as a founding member of both the GLT and Globe Productions.

GLT vice president Taylor Grist says she also wore many more hats as a teacher, mentor, inspiration and incredible actress, to name a few.

"Her voice could so ef-



Dorothy Hunt (left) and Vera Macdonald.

fortlessly fill a room," he said. "If she was not directing or acting, she would teach workshops to our Youth Company, always projecting her vivacity and utter zest for theatre upon those around her." In her retirement, Macdonald would rarely miss a GLT production, noted Grist.

"She would often be the last to leave the lobby after a performance, as practically every member of the cast would humbly approach her and ask, 'What did you think?'" he recalled. "Her indelible legacy will forever inspire all those who knew her, and her presence will be felt between claps at all our fu"The exploits and impressions of these two brilliant women could fill volumes."

- GLT vice president Taylor Grist

ture curtain calls."

Hunt, who was in her 89th year, joined the GLT in 1965 and went on to produce over 100 plays, direct countless shows and share her knowledge serving on the board of directors.

"Dorothy Hunt was the glue that held GLT together," said Grist. "It's no secret that a community theatre can be a chaotic place, but Dorothy knew exactly where everything belonged." After the theatre's rehearsal space burned down in 1999, Hunt chaired the building committee to rebuild the group's home.

Grist said her tenacity kept GLT moving as she found new rehearsal spaces, liaised with the Town and raised thousands of dollars from local businesses.

"It's undeniable that without Dorothy Hunt, our community theatre would not be what it is today," he said. "She gave us all a place to belong."

The group members plan to honour the two women as they mark their 60th anniversary this year.

"The exploits and impressions of these two brilliant women could fill volumes, let alone one newspaper article," noted Grist. "It's with immense pride that we stand on the earth they paved, the stage that they set."



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