



C. Allen Gove, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Music, Passed Away June 23, 2016

C. Allen Gove, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Music, passed away June 23, 2016. Professor Gove began his career at CSU, Hayward (East Bay) in 1966. He served as Department Chair from 1974 through 1981. He retired in 1992.

The family of Professor Gove has provided the following obituary.

Allen Gove, longtime resident of Castro Valley, passed away peacefully on June 23, 2016, after recently suffering two strokes.

Allen was a highly regarded cellist and music teacher, and taught at Cal State Hayward (now Cal State East Bay) from 1966 until his retirement in 1992. He remained active throughout his life, and was still playing chamber music, creating special arrangements and giving cello lessons in his home studio until he entered the hospital on June 11th.

While at Cal State, he established a widely lauded chamber music program and supporting library. This became a valuable resource for students and faculty who could always find arrangements to suit their needs. It was such a success that the program was later adopted by Humboldt State University.

Allen's career spanned 65 years, including two years with the Seventh Army Symphony in the 1950s. While in the army, he worked to make a positive impact in post-war European communities, and developed good friendships with other members. Prior to his faculty position at Cal State, he taught at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon, Gonzaga University, Washington State University in Spokane, Whitworth University, Eastern Washington University, Modesto Junior College and the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.

Allen also performed with the Oakland Symphony, and recorded music for Aaron Neville, the "Star Wars Trilogy" and "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest". At the Fairmont and other venues, he played behind notable stars including Tony Bennett, Peggy Lee and Dionne Warwick.

In addition to music, Allen enjoyed gardening, bird watching, Scrabble, travel and reading. Most of all, he dearly loved his wife and family, and treasured the time they spent together. He was a beloved and devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, known by all for his kindness, generous spirit, musical talent, and his delightful sense of humor.

Allen and his wife Muriel were born and raised in Santa Cruz, where both were recognized as talented musicians at an early age. In the seventh grade, Allen took a job in a bakery, gaining skills that helped him work his way through college and earn a Master's degree from the University of Illinois. Over the years, he continued to bake delicious bread and rolls, which he generously shared with family, friends and neighbors.

Allen is survived by his loving wife of nearly 61 years, Muriel Gove; four children (Carolyn Pexton, Randy Gove, Elizabeth Kennen and Rebecca Baker), ten grandchildren and three great-grandsons. He also leaves behind many devoted nieces, nephews, friends, former colleagues and students, all mourning the loss of such an amazing, caring man.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the American Heart Association. A Celebration of Allen's Life will be held Sunday, July 24th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Cal State Music Building Recital Hall (room MB 1055) in Hayward.