

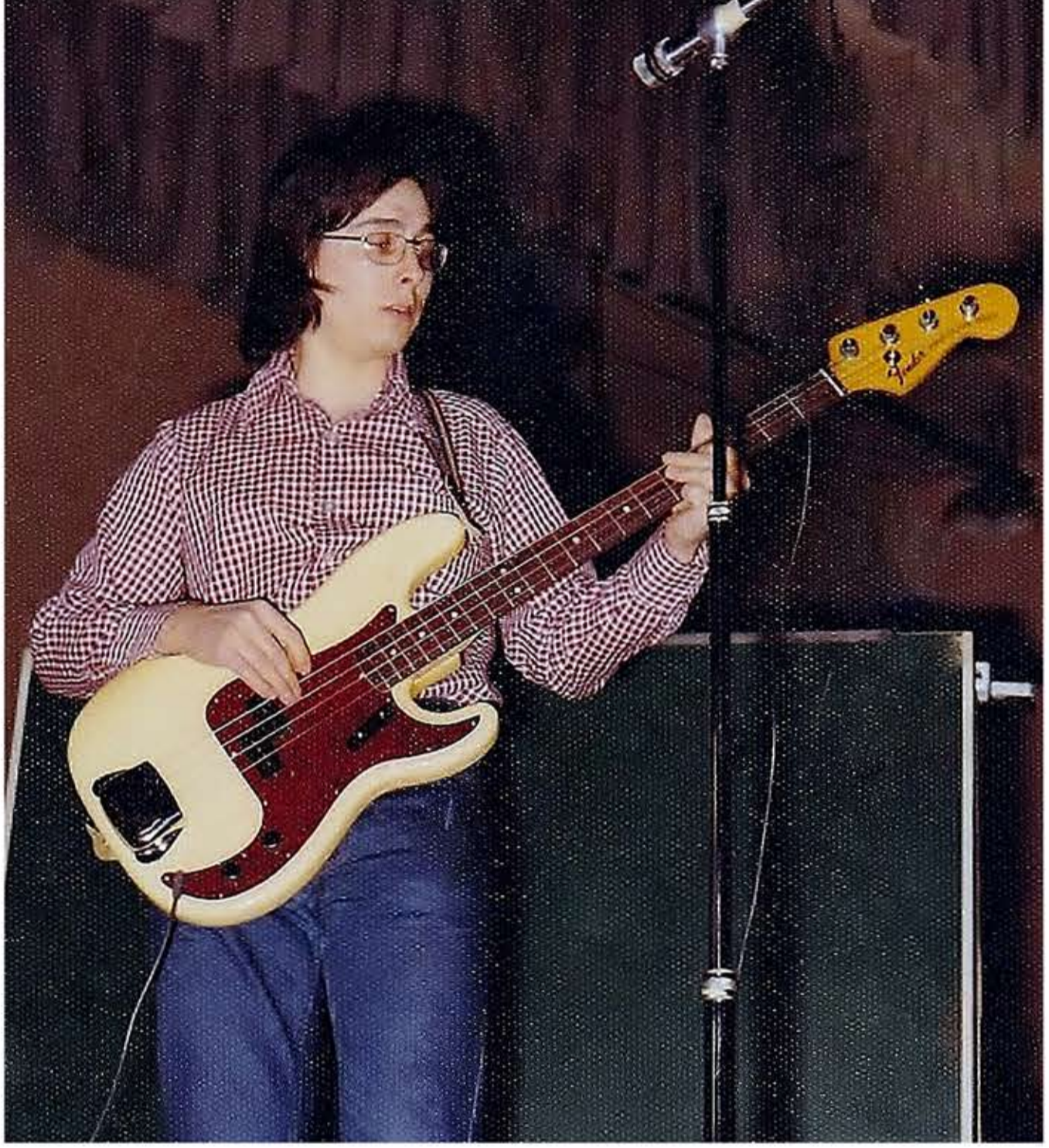


Musicians of the Midnight Sun

Thank you for visiting the Musicians of the Midnight Sun website. Even though these blogs are being posted many weeks after the launch of the Musicians of the Midnight Sun website, my hope is that they will remain as a document along with the website itself with the intention to give a little bit more of a personal story of my relationships with these featured artists.

Gary Tees

I was pretty active in my junior high school student's council and had the task of booking the bands for the almost monthly teen dances the school would sponsor. One of those bands was the "Stained Glass Illusion". Before I even knew what a Bass guitar was, I paid attention to *Gary Tees*, the Bass player, playing a beautiful white Fender Precision Bass and standing in front of a huge Sunn Bass amplifier and cabinet.



Gary Tees, Yellowknife, NT. early 1970s, (photo courtesy Gary Tees)

Through the years, I got to see and hear *Gary* play with many local bands, sometimes beside his brother *John Tees*. *Gary* and *John* were both born and raised in Yellowknife and were the first of the young, rock and roll bands to get their start in the 1960s. He worked a government job, raised a family and through it all, he kept playing music late into the nights on weekends or the odd six nighter. *Gary* always had a gig.



NWT Archives/James Jerome/N-1987-017-3214

with 'Moondance'. L-R , Tom Hudson, John Tees, Gary Tees, (not in photo, Norman Glowach, the late Herb Lafferty. 1975, Yellowknife, NT (photo courtesy NWT Archives, N-1987-017-2658)

He was always interested in talking music and Bass guitars, keeping his ear to the local scene, who was playing where and in his own humble, quiet manner, taking it all in. Even today, *Gary* encourages the younger up and coming players, showing up to jam sessions with Bass in hand and ready to play whatever song is called.



L-R Gary Tees, John Telgen, John Tees Commissioners Ball, Yellowknife, 1978

Gary found and carried his love for music through his life. He is one of those people who look at the world through a child's eyes, seeing the wonder and beauty in all of it. His love for music is infectious.