IT IS WITH DEEP SORROW that we announce the sudden passing of our loving father, husband, grandfather, great-grandfather and dear friend, Ib Steen Kristensen of Fort Smith, NWT, on March 24, 2017, at the youthful age of 82. Ib died in hospital in Edmonton of complications following cardiac surgery.

Ib was born in Copenhagen, Denmark in 1934, grew up during the war and immigrated to Canada in 1954 after marrying Lillian, his first wife and mother of his two children. Ib made an early career as a typographer and book designer in Vancouver and Montreal. After moving his family to Fort Smith in 1971, he opened a business, “North of 60 Books”, which he ran with Lillian for approximately 30 years before retiring to his log home in Bell Rock. Ib was predeceased by Lillian in 2005, and proudly remarried in 2015 to Pat Raymer. He spent his last few years travelling with Pat to warmer climates and feeding his woodstove in Bell Rock. Ib was a respected community elder, exuding a charming and cheerful demeanor, and leaving a positive impression on everyone he met. Ib leaves behind his wife Pat, son Jack and daughter-in-law Ruth, son David, grandchildren Dale, Shane and Kaeli, the Raymer/Bernhardt families all of whom called him “Grandpa Ib”, his church family, countless close friends and acquaintances and his beloved and faithful canine companion, “Hagar the Horrible.” He will also be sorely missed by many other families for whom he was an honourary member and “Grandpa.”

Special thanks to everyone who loved and cared for Ib, especially the Bell Rock community. Ib wished to be cremated, and a Memorial Service to be held in Fort Smith will be announced shortly.