

S/Sgt Raymond John (JACK) Kruger

It is with unspeakable sadness that we announce the untimely death of Retired S/Sgt Raymond John (JACK) Kruger. Jack was at the University of Alberta Hospital, in Edmonton with his wife, Marny, when he suddenly and unexpectedly passed away on Thursday, June 19th, 2014.

Born January 16th, 1946 in Ottawa, Jack was raised in Eganville, Ontario, the only child of Gladys Iona (McDonald) & Raymond Joseph Kruger. After graduation in 1964 he joined the 2nd Battalion Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) but left to join the R.C.M.P. on May 13th,



1966. After training in Depot (Regina), his service began in "E" Division, (B.C.) followed by "A" Division (Ottawa) and "O" Division (Ontario) before transferring to "G" Division (NWT) in 1982. In 1992 he served on the UN Mission in former Yugoslavia and returned to "G" Division in 1993. Jack's northern service included Rankin Inlet, Hay River, Yellowknife, Iqaluit and a return to Hay River where he lived and worked up to his death. Jack retired from the RCMP May 31, 2003, only to return as a Civilian Member the next day, and continually served the RCMP for a total of 48 years. Jack's life took him many places and he had many adventures, but the biggest adventure was moving "north of 60" 32 years ago.

Jack was a straight-shooting, competent, respectful, loyal, decisive, reliable leader. He loved the RCMP and what it stood for. Jack's career with the Force was long and varied, but the end of his career, after "retirement" was probably the most rewarding. He served as the S.A.R. Co-ordinator and Training Officer for "G" Division. He was passionate about Search & Rescue and he loved what he did. He was actively engaged at the national leadership level of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary. His volunteer work with the CCGA was the perfect fit, as he seamlessly melded the two worlds (CCGA and RCMP) for the betterment of both. Jack was most concerned with "getting the job done"...and preferably done right! His presence will be missed on many fronts. Jack was definitely one-of-a-kind...it's doubtful any one person could fill all his empty shoes.

Predeceased by his parents, Jack has left to mourn his passing, his wife Marny, daughters Jacky, Natacha, Paige and Meg; sons Reiss and Chad; sons-in-law Brent Babiuk and Kris Rewega; grandson Cash and granddaughters Daphnée, Avianna and Nola.

A Memorial service is planned for Saturday, August 2, 2014 in Hay River, followed that evening with Fish Fry/BBQ to 'Celebrate a Life Well Lived.' Details available closer to that date.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in Jack's name to the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary, (Central & Arctic Region), 577 Kingston Rd, suite 206, Toronto, ON M4E 1R3 office@ccga-ca.com 1-866-429-7283, the University Hospital Foundation, Donor Office – Room 1H1.91, WMC 8440 – 112 Street, N.W. Edmonton, AB T6G 2B7 uhfoundation@albertahealthservices.ca (780) 407-7007, or any charity of the donor's choice.