David began his career in 1949 when he joined the Canadian Air Force. It was there that he learned his life long trade as an aircraft maintenance engineer. During the ensuing years he worked for many airlines honing his skills; becoming an expert in the care, control and operation of aircraft in the very harsh Arctic environment. When he joined Buffalo Airways in 1980, as Chief Engineer, he was well qualified to maintain the fleet. He worked on the historic DC-3’s and many other round engine planes. Dave was what you would call old school. He learned from the ground up. He knew the inside of a plane better than the route home. In his last year at Buffalo, he completed a comprehensive inventory of parts for these planes. This was no mean feat as the last DC-3 came off the assembly line in 1959.

“If you want to tell people about Dave, tell them he gave more than he took,” says Joe McBryan “He spent 24 years imparting his knowledge to my brother Ronnie and my son Rod. He did this freely, always willing to help.”

Around 1999 Dave felt it was time to retire. His fondest wish was to go home to his beloved Nova Scotia. Being a practical man and not wanting to leave Buffalo Airways in the lurch, he gave them four years notice. Finally in August 2003, he returned to his home province to spend his last years.

As he wished, he was cremated and his ashes interred with his father in St. James Cemetery in Big Bras D’or N.S.

Dave lived his life in great fashion, doing what he loved. He will be missed.