It is with great sadness that the family of Walter “Wally” Michael Maduke announces his passing on February 28, 2016, at the age of 81.

Born in Manitoba to first generation Canadians, and the eldest of 5 children, Wally is survived by his wife Yvonne, sons Joe, Mike and John, granddaughter Dahra, brother Melvin, sister-in-laws Zoe and Vicky, and his nieces, nephews, and cousins.

With his young family, Wally moved to Yellowknife in 1973 as a manager with The Hudson’s Bay Co., after 30 years with the company he later joined the Worker’s Compensation Board, and since 1979 was a prominent business owner.

Entrepreneur, community organizer, raconteur and man-about-town, Wally’s great passion for meeting new people was forged in his early working life while on numerous assignments with 'The Bay'.

Never tiring of meeting new people, in his spare time Wally helped to create the Old Blasters old-timers hockey club and organized many charitable hockey events.

Although generously giving of his time to so many, he loved few things more than the tranquility of his cabin retreat, rarely without canine companionship, and usually with a neighbour or two to pop in on.

Active and independent until the very end, and always in wonder of the world around him, he was a wonderment to his family, friends, and colleagues.

Although heartbroken, his family is eternally grateful in the knowledge that he passed away quickly and peacefully in his sleep, and pray this offers some relief to the many Yellowknifers, and others, who knew him well, loved his company, and who will miss him dearly.

Funeral service will be open to the public at 2:00 pm on Friday, April 8, 2016, at St. Patrick’s parish.

In lieu of flowers, Wally would have appreciated a contribution to a local charity.