Wilfred Jerome Schidlowsky

September 30, 1930 – September 30, 2016

WILFRED JEROME SCHIDLOWSKY, of Yellowknife, NT, died on Friday, September 30, 2016. He was 86. He was born on September 30, 1930, in the Carmel District near Humboldt, Saskatchewan. His parents were Emil and Elizabeth (nee Freistadt) Schidlowsky.

In 1955 Wilfred married Elaine Eleanor Hepp, and together they had three daughters – Gwen, Laureen, and Cheryl. He is predeceased by his loving wife of 52 years, Elaine, who passed away in 2007 as well as his eldest daughter, Gwen Forbes, who passed away in 2010. Wilfred is survived by two daughters, Laureen (Wayne MacDonald) of Yellowknife, NT, and Cheryl (Ken Jeffery) of Fernie, BC. Gwen’s husband Tim Forbes and son Dave Forbes. Laureen’s son Keven Schidlowsky (Beatka), Cheryl’s children, Sarina, Nathan, and Quinton Jeffery.

Wilfred attended Teachers’ College in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, in 1949-50. He taught for several years in Morven and then served as principal of Pilger Country School in Saskatchewan from 1960-64. Wilfred was invited by Norman Byrne Sr. to come to Yellowknife in 1964 to work as a teacher for the Catholic School System at St. Patrick’s School. He taught full-time until 1989, where, after 25 years of teaching he retired his full-time teaching duties and adopted the role of substitute teacher. During his years teaching, he enjoyed educating students in a variety of subjects. Math was his first and foremost subject, but he taught pretty much every subject in the school curriculum, including geology, woodworking, small engine mechanics, guitar lessons and bicycle repair. Even while Wilfred worked full-time as a teacher, he kept himself busy with many other jobs, including repairing and maintaining electronic equipment for the school district, playing in a band called “Easy Street”, and tinkering with bikes, which were all more of a hobby than work for him. With his best friend, Alec Glowach, he started Yellowknife’s first Bike Repair Shop, called G&S Bike Repair, which later became K&W Cycle in a new partnership with Ken Leonardis who was a young student at the time. Between teaching and tinkering in his bike shop, Wilfred kept himself active and involved in the community and this is what we remember him most for.

A unique soul, Wilfred was a kind and generous person who enjoyed the simple things in life, but was always ready to try something new and exciting.

He will be greatly missed and forever remembered.

A funeral mass will be held for Wilfred J. Schidlowsky at 1:00pm on Friday at St. Patrick’s Church, with burial to follow at Lakeview Cemetery. Reception will take place at the Baker Community Centre at 3:00 p.m.

Memorial donations may be made in Wilfred’s name to the St. Patrick’s Parish and Avens- A Community for Seniors.

"THE ROAD NOT TAKEN"
By Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.