



William Robert Wilson

May 13, 1932 - July 12, 2006

"...When the agony of death was over, when the storm of the world died away behind His retiring spirit, He entered the regions where there is only life."

Bill Wilson "The Chief" left this world on July 12, 2006. Born in Calgary in 1932, he spent his formative years in Bowness where his family is still well-remembered and loved.

After a stint of working out east, Bill started working in the Norman Wells oilfield in 1952. Life in the North suited Bill, he valued the simple pace of life and being able to know everybody. "Willy" started as a pipefitter and battery operator on Bear Island at a time when three men lived on site and trips into "town" occurred every three weeks. Through the years, Bill progressed to boilerhouse chief and finally to refinery foreman. He was involved with the Esso Fire Department for over 20 years and served as Director of the NWT Fire Fighters Association.

In 1958, Bill married Muriel Clark. Married for twenty-seven years, they had three children who all were born and raised in Norman Wells. Bill was a great animal lover and his dog Nikki took many flights out on IJR in his own passenger seat.

Bill retired to Calgary in 1986 and became involved with the Bowness Seniors Society which continues to involve his former schoolmates.

Bill was a quiet man who spoke through his actions whether it be through buying an extra bedroom suite in September in anticipation of family visits at Christmas, investing in numerous Walt Disney movies for his grandchildren, or thoughtfully ensuring that all details of his life were in order so that his passage was made easier for his children. Over and over again, he demonstrated the grace of turning the other cheek, of forgiveness, and of acceptance.

Bill passed away peacefully with the knowledge that he was loved.

Predeceased by his parents, Frank and Marjorie Wilson, his son David Clark Wilson, and his wife of 27 years, Muriel, Bill is survived by his son Murray (Suzanne) of Vernon, his daughter Leslie in Yellowknife and his three grandchildren: Mitchell, Elise, and Kelsey.

A funeral service will be held on Monday, July 17, at 2:30 pm at the McGinnis and Holloway Funeral Chapel at Crowfoot Centre in Calgary.

A gathering of family and friends will follow in the reception area.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.