Passed away on December 16, 2011, from natural causes, while at his home in Edmonton, Alberta. John was born March 4, 1937 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. He was referred to as the “man of the north”, the guy that put Lupin Mine on the map, the guy that built Canada’s unique super ice highway. John was committed to building capacity for northern communities and his determination and strong will meant that no matter the obstacles to anything he thought was important – he almost always found a way. Over the span of his adult life, John developed countless personal and business relationships; and through his charitable contributions he touched lives of many that he never met. John loved history, he loved aircraft and flying, he loved to share jokes, and he loved his chosen career in the mining industry.

John will be dearly missed and is survived by his children Natalie (Al) of New Westminster, British Columbia; Rory (Sherry) of Rocky Mountain House, Alberta; and Lorena of Prescott, Ontario; his grandchildren and great-grandchildren; brothers Teddy Zigarlick (Eleanor), Norman Zigarlick and sister Evelyn Thomas. John was predeceased by his father John Zigarlick Sr., his mother Olga, his brother Lawrence and his niece Wendy.

The family will hold a private service in Edmonton at this time and a celebration of John’s life will be held in the New Year where family, friends and business associates can come together to share their stories and to bid farewell to John. The family wishes to thank everyone for their kind condolences. In lieu of flowers, a contribution to the Canadian Cancer Society, The Boyle Street Community Services or a local child based charity of your choice would be most appreciated.