

2012-02-10

ARTHUR KRAHN



Arthur Krahn slipped away in the early morning hours before dawn of February 2nd, to meet his Lord and Savior. Born in Kronstal, Ukraine in the midst of the upheaval of communist Russia, the years of World War II and his family's escape were deeply engrained in his memory.

We often heard the stories of their night time border crossings.

His family landed in the port of Halifax on December 12, 1947, and were welcomed to Canadian soil by the Peter Dycks in Springstein, Manitoba. Here Arthur began to sense a hunger for God, and his wrestling with the death of his brother George brought him to a decision to

accept the Lord Jesus as his Saviour in the summer of 1949.

The family moved to Winnipeg a year later, where he worked while finishing high school at night. Here he met the woman whom he loved dearly for the rest of his days. Arthur married Lydia Guenther on May 18, 1957.

Arthur was a builder. He contracted and built seven houses; three of those with his Dad and brother Peter in Winnipeg. This was a side line while he worked as a meat inspector for the government. He contracted his own house after they moved to Brandon in 1969 as well, and chaired the building committee in the church in Brandon when they built their new facility. He loved his church community at Richmond Park in Brandon, and served faithfully in many ways through all of their years there.

He was one who worked behind the scenes, noticing what needed doing, and then making sure it got done. This was true in so many areas of his life.

Other passions that he pursued were curling, hunting, golfing, camping and boating, and all sorts of competitive games. He invested in the lives of many young men over the years through the program Boy's Brigade. He loved a good chess game with his brother Neil. He loved to make sure that the grandchildren won, and that Lydia did not get her bid, in the wonderful game of Rook. We all faced his fierce forehand spike in the ping pong table in the basement.

Though the last four years were full of struggles in so many ways, there abided a love for his Lydia and his family, a sense of graciousness and kindness to others, a fierce independence, and attentiveness to the little children around him, a love for this country which brought him freedom, and a love for his Lord. His prayers, even in the last days, always began "Our dear God and heavenly Father, we do thank you..."

He was predeceased by his mother Margareta in 1963, his father George in 1981, his brothers Abraham in infancy, George in 1948, Neil in 1979, Peter in 1993, his step mother Aganeta in 1985, and his son-in-law Dan Driedger in 1989.

He is treasured by those left behind: his wife Lydia, children Darlene (Randy) Klassen, Janine (Ward) Parkinson, Brenda (Gene) Ray, Ken (Jennifer) Krahn;

grandchildren Josie (Mitch), Jeana, Adam, and Mitchell; Kyle (Danae), Amanda, Rachel, and James; Tucker, Katie and Dakota; Kaiya and Braeden; great grandson Tyler; sister Freda; stepsister Agnes (Jake) Funk; and many other relatives and friends.

Following a family interment at the Springstein Cemetery, a memorial celebration was held at the Morris Fellowship Chapel on Monday February 6, 2012.

If friends so desire, donations may be made to the Family Life Network, specified to the Ukraine Mission Trip.