

# David Arthur Lorenzen

of Camrose, formerly of Yellowknife

Angels came down and received Dave by wrapping their wings around him when he passed away peacefully on August 20, 2017 at the age of 84.

Dave was one of Yellowknife's true pioneers, who had more than 60 years of colourful history in the camps, mines and roads that have helped build the modern north. He was renowned for his skill and ingenuity as a cat skinner, ploughman and mechanic.

Born in Edmonton on May 27, 1933, Dave made his way north in 1947 and ended up at the Bob Wynn Sawmill on the Slave River, limbing and bucking fallen trees with a Swede saw for a year - he was 14. After leaving the sawmill, he started working for Menzies Fisheries, hauling fish from Gros Cap that was processed, packed and frozen by Japanese and shipped back to Hay River.

On January 2, 1953, Dave married Martha Lambert in Hay River, a Fort Vermillion girl he met there three years prior. They moved to Yellowknife in 1955 where they started their family. He worked for the Town of Yellowknife before starting his own heavy equipment business, Lorenzen & Son in 1965. After many years in Yellowknife, Dave and Martha moved to Camrose in 1979. Dave couldn't shake the north though and started a consulting business which brought him back to projects in the Barren Lands, clean-ups at Great Bear Lake, DEW line site clean-ups across the Eastern Arctic and reclamation of the Colomac Mine.

His quiet manner, gentle sense of humour, generosity, and zest for adventure and challenge have inspired confidence and admiration in anyone who has ever worked with him. He took great satisfaction from his work and his life in helping to build Yellowknife and the North.

He has left behind the love of his life, Martha, who he shared 63 years of loving marriage with, his children Carol (Camrose), Caron (Jack Buckley) of Yellowknife and Dave (Steve Pauls) of BC who will miss him immensely. Dave had five grandchildren, Dayna, Daneen, Dustin, John-David and Casey who he loved very much. His six great-grandchildren, Delanie, Daelin, Emma, David, Danielle and Darah, were all so closely wrapped around his heart. His only great-great grandchild, Haileigh, brought him such great joy. The love he had for her shone like the brightest star in heaven. His siblings, sister Laura Blaker, brothers Jim and Doug Lorenzen all of BC.

Dave was predeceased by his parents Eunice and Frank Lorenzen, brothers Bill and Leonard and infant son Frank. Dave was such a hardworking, selfless man, whose wife and family always came first. He will now rest, as it is so greatly deserved.

Cremation has taken place with a memorial service held on August 25, 2017 at the Bugar Memorial Chapel in Camrose, AB.

***Dave's wish was to return to the north that he loved so much and where he wanted to be after he passed. A gathering will take place at a later date to be announced in the summer of 2018.***

Condolences can be sent through Bugar Funeral Home at [bugarfuneralhome.com](http://bugarfuneralhome.com)

