

Arnold McCallum



McCallum, Arnold James, 77, of Digby, NS, passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 25, 2008 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Arnold was born in 1931 and raised in Charlottetown. A gifted and well-respected educator, Arnold taught school in Digby, NS from 1958 until 1964 when he and his family embarked on a journey to Canada's north to teach school in Yellowknife, NT and then Fort Smith, NT.

After spending several years as a school principal in Fort Smith, Arnold entered the arena of territorial politics in 1974, winning a seat in the constituency of Slave River and becoming an MLA in the first fully-elected Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories. Soon after the election, Arnold was named the first ever Minister of Education of the Northwest Territories. Arnold was twice re-elected and retired from politics in 1987.

Although they loved the North, Arnold and Eileen also loved the Maritimes and returned to Digby in 1987, 23 years after embarking on their great northern adventure. They enjoyed their retirement getting involved in the community and playing as much golf as possible.

Arnold is survived by his loving wife Eileen; sons Ross of Inuvik, NT; Scott of Digby; daughter Nancy Robert (Ivan) of St. Albert, AB; grandsons Daniel and Luke Robert of St. Albert, AB; siblings Joan Henry (Ron) of Guelph, ON; Janet Lapierre (Jerry) of Georgetown, ON; Carol Rose (Bill) of Pierrefonds, QU; Brian (Marg) of Calgary, AB; Margo Ellis (Ed) of Calgary, AB; and Allan (Glenna) of Nanaimo, BC.

A true believer in following the right path, even though it may not be the easy path and one of the kindest men you could ever meet, Arnold impacted the lives of so many people. He will be remembered fondly and missed terribly by his family and countless friends from all over Canada.

Visitation: Was held Wednesday, May 28, Digby, NS, Funeral Mass: Was held Thursday, May 29, 10:00am
Interment: St. Paul's Anglican Church Cemetery, Marshalltown, NS

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Canadian Cancer Society www.cancer.ca or to the charity of your choice.