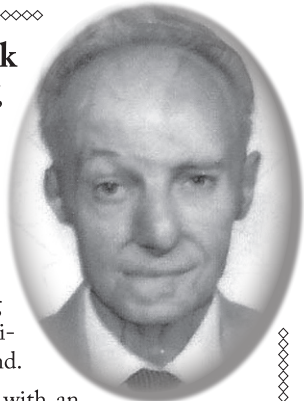


Roman (Ray) Piwtorak



*Born Ripency, Poland,
September 15, 1930*



Not much is known about Ray's early life or family except that he spent part of his teenage years labouring in a concentration camp during World War II and then immigrated to Canada after war's end.

It appears he kept in contact with an older brother who survived the war, immigrated west, settled in New York and lived into his 70s.

Ray worked in the mining industry starting at Uranium City, Saskatchewan, then in 1953 moved to Port Radium on Great Bear Lake and eventually over to Contwoyto Lake for Echo Bay Mines at Lupin. During his mining career with Echo Bay Mines Ray also operated boats for the company and maintained one of his own for pleasure. The company helped him move his boat from Great Bear Lake over to Contwoyto when he transferred to the Lupin mine, and then again helped move it south down to Yellowknife upon his retirement.

In Yellowknife Ray lived at Northern United Place and followed a routine that included daily trips to the lottery booth, coffee shops, and summer days down at the dock tinkering with his boat. This came to an end on April 16, 2012 when Ray quietly passed away in the Stanton Territorial Hospital at 82 years of age.

Friends of Ray met at the Mckenna Funeral Home on Monday, April 23 to reminisce and followed with a final farewell at the Lake View Cemetery.

We will miss seeing Ray on his daily walk and will not soon forget his quiet, peaceful nature. Thank you to the staff at Northern United Place and Stanton Territorial Hospital for taking such good care of such a good man.