



Richard G. Robinson

February 22, 1936 - June 16, 2019

RICHARD ROBINSON passed away peacefully in the presence of family on the evening of Sunday, June 16, 2019, in St. Albert, Alberta at the Sturgeon General Hospital.

Born in Islay, Alberta, Richard was the son of the late Gordon and Dora (Butterfield) Robinson. Richard was one of 12 children: Keith, Doris, Joan, Shirley, Marie and is predeceased by George, Jean, Ellen, Joyce, Lillian and Norman. Richard left school at the age of 12 to help support his family. Trucking and heavy construction became his life's work. He lived and worked in Alberta and met the love of his life, Esther Robinson (Trach) in 1955 whom he married in 1957.

Richard and Esther lived with their children in Edmonton, Alberta, Hay River, NT, and Yellowknife, NT. In 1966, Richard and Esther created Robinson's Trucking Ltd. and over the years they and their children grew this business to become one of the largest Transportation, Construction and Logistics Companies in the Northwest Territories under the name RTL-Robinson Enterprises Ltd. The company was sold in 2006.

Richard was a highly respected truck driver, constructor and northern ice road pioneer. He trucked up and down the Mackenzie Highway during its inception, constructing the road through the bog and mud. He is remarked as being the first truck driver to drive to Yellowknife, NT when the Highway was opened. Richard worked alongside renowned ice road pioneer, John Dennison, to build and develop the ice roads of Northern Canada, opening up the North to mining in areas including Port Radium, Camsul River, Sawmill Bay, Dismal Lake and Tundra Mine. Richard constructed the first ever Tibbit to Contwoyto winter ice road in 1979. To this day, this seasonal road that he pioneered is constructed and used as the vital link to Canada's Northern Diamond Mines, generating billions of revenue to the North.

Richard and Esther retired to Edmonton, Alberta in 1990 and spent their golden years enjoying family and friends in Alberta and the Northwest Territories. They enjoyed travelling in their motorhome and wintering in Phoenix, Arizona.

Richard is survived by his wife of over 62 years, Esther; and their children Marvin Robinson (Janet), Karen Christensen (Dale), Ricky Robinson (deceased 2016) (Roxanne), and Donnie Robinson (Joan); grandchildren Cheryl Robinson-Houweling (Peter), Gary Robinson (deceased 2004), Bonnie Parisella (Francois), Allen Christensen (Jess), Brent Robinson (Janell), Darcy Robinson, Derrick Robinson (Erica), and Brittany Robinson-Harder (Peter); great-grandchildren Hazel Houweling, Keaton and Ryland Parisella, Eva and Brooklyn Christensen, Dakota, Tyler, Ayla, Luke and Rowen Robinson, and Flynn and Cooper Harder.

*A Celebration of Life will be held at 2:00 pm on Monday, June 24, 2019
at Evergreen Funeral Home, 16204 Fort Road, Edmonton, AB.*