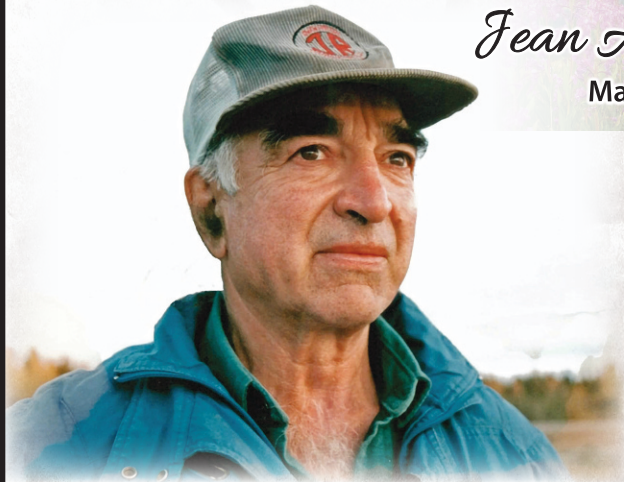


# *Jean Antoine Pierre (Johnny) Rocher*

March 4, 1929 – April 12, 2016



We have loved him in life and we will continue to honour him in our memories. Johnny left us on April 12, 2016, with family by his side. Johnny was born March 4, 1929, on section 30-42-20 west of 2nd, St. Brieux, Saskatchewan. He was an entrepreneur from an early age. As his stories went, he started his own milk delivery business at the ripe age of five, and he would assure you that he made more as a boy at that time, than most men. At fourteen he decided to leave home. He changed his name to Johnny Rocher, hopped on a freight train and started his adventure.

His journey brought him north to Hay River in the early 1950's, where he and Mary were married on July 7, 1956. The following

year they moved to Yellowknife and started their family. Johnny fell in love with the North, particularly because of its pioneer spirit. Throughout his life, Johnny had many different professions: commercial fisherman, trapper, prospector, diamond driller, coal miner, City of Yellowknife Alderman, professional junk man, treasure hunter, and overall a respected businessman. But of all his endeavors, his grandchildren were his greatest pride and joy.

To his family, Johnny was a pillar of strength. He possessed a keen mind for business and was known to use his cleverness to play practical jokes on his family and friends. He had a great sense of humour. He touched the hearts of many and shared his love of life and laughter with all he met. He will be remembered through his stories, his adventures that we sometimes questioned, the mischievous twinkle in his eyes, and the love he shared with all of us. Johnny was a true treasure!!

He was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, and friend. He leaves behind his wife Mary, children Leslie (Sandra), Larry, Jeannie (Yves), his sister Marie-Louise (Ernie), his sister-in-law Estelle, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. He is predeceased by his parents, Juliette and Jean-Marie Rocher, and his siblings: Adele (William), Abel, Joseph, and Lucien (Dorene).

We would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Eileen Peters, Lynda Koe, and the staff at AVENS Cedar Cottage. We have been blessed with the love and compassion of these hardworking individuals who provide the utmost care to our elders. Words cannot express our gratitude.

**In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Memory of Johnny Rocher to the AVENS Expansion Project. This project will add more long-term care beds to the AVENS Centre to help ensure that more northerners have access to high quality care.**

The service at the Catholic Church has been set for April 22 at 11 am, with a Celebration of Life to follow at the Tree of Peace Friendship Centre.