

Lawrence Henry Sheck

August 4, 1914 – February 21, 2007

Lawrence (Larry) passed away suddenly but peacefully at the age of 92 years old in Grimshaw, Alberta. Larry is survived by his sons Rick, Robert (Dawn) and daughter Sandra (David), his brothers William (Fiena) and Robert (Louise), sister-in-law Jean Sheck and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his father Peter, his mother Annie, brother Don, sisters Marie, Doris, Kay, Betty, brothers-in-law Jack, Tommy and Sammy.

Larry was a pioneer in Northern Transportation. First coming north up the Peace River to Great Bear Lake and back to Yellowknife by tug and barge that he helped build. He was hired by Negus Gold Mines as a cook in 1937 for their exploration crew. In 1938 he became the Negus Surface Foreman. One of the standing monuments of Larry's endeavours is the first Negus cook house built in 1938 and still standing today at the bottom of the Imperial Oil bulk plant hill in Yellowknife. Larry was the first man to walk a Caterpillar Tractor across Great Slave Lake in December 1938 from Fort Resolution to Yellowknife along with Carl Werner for Negus Mines. In 1940, with a Negus contract, Larry brought two Cat Trains from Grimshaw, Alberta to Yellowknife. From 1939 and until the end of the Cat Train era Sheck Bros. Transportation hauled freight into Yellowknife and to all the operating mines in the Great Slave Lake area. They were also involved in moving freight by tug boat and barge during the summer months to Yellowknife. Larry led the first commercial truck freight haul from Grimshaw to Hay River in 1945. In 1950 Larry settled in Grimshaw where he carried on in the heavy construction business until his retirement.

Larry's passion for the North, mining and ice roads was evident throughout his life and his dream of publishing his book "Man of Many Trades" became a reality in 2006.

A special thank you to Fred and Bernice Lorenzen and the Estabrook Family for their friendship and support to Larry throughout the years.

A service to celebrate Larry's life will be held later this summer in Grimshaw.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made in Larry's name to the Mackenzie Highway Antique Truck Society, Box 1819, Grimshaw, Alberta, T0H 1W0.

"Grampa – I know you are riding the Cat Trains in the sky"

