Jack Welsh

JACK WELSH PASSED ON PEACEFULLY June 17, 2009 in the Stanton Territorial Hospital.

Jack Welsh was born on December 21, 1928 in the Edmonton Hospital to Charles David Welsh and Frances Dair. He spent his childhood in the small community of Evansburg with seven siblings: Ruby, Ilene, Fiona, Morris, Betty and Gerald.

In 1943, at the age of 15, he moved to Whitehorse, Yukon, to work and raise his fortune. He quickly fell in love with the North, and developed a passionate enjoyment for berry picking, snaring rabbits and hunting ptarmigans. His first job was a labourer, working with gold dredges. Then, he was hired by the Department of Public Works and began to work building bridges and constructing the Alaskan Highway. Eventually, he began work as a plumber and a pipefitter, a career that served him until his retirement.

Jack met Anne Hyshka in 1954, and the two were blessed with three sons, Terry, Brad and Mitch. Jack and Anne were married for nearly ten years, until they parted ways in 1963, Anne moving with the boys to Prince George and Dawson Creek, British Columbia, and Jack following work to Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. He worked in the Giant Gold Mines for twenty years, in which time he met Bella Jane Tale and had a fourth son, Wayne. After many years of service, Jack quit the Giant Mines and worked as a freelance plumber and pipefitter until he retired in 1994, at the age of 66. Even though most of his family moved far away, Jack's love and passion for the North kept him in Yellowknife for the rest of his days.

Jack has five grandchildren: Skye, Mitch's only daughter, Kyle and Linsey, Terry's children and Colton, Lincoln and Corbin, Brad's children. He spent his summers visiting Brad's family in Grande Prairie, Alberta. Recently, he lived quietly in Avon Manor and the Medicine Ward of the Stanton Territorial Hospital. His family would like to extend their deepest thanks to his friends, acquaintances and the hard-working medical staff that made Jack's life easier and more enjoyable.