

Ernest Jackson Dalzell

“Absent in body, present with the Lord.” It is with deep sadness that our family announces the peaceful passing of Ernest Jackson Dalzell. Ernie was born in St. Boniface, Manitoba to Ernest Wilburforce Dalzell and Ada Beatrice (nee Stokes) and passed away at the age of 94 at Hospice in Victoria, B.C. Predeceased by his parents and his step-mother, Eleanor (Hosford) Dalzell, and siblings Irene, Reg, Audrey, Fern, and Winnie. He is survived by his wife of 74 years, Marjorie (nee Nottingham), 3 children, Linda (Gerry), Les (Emma) and Yvonne, 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren, Charlene & Jack Robinson, Jason Maxwell (Andrew), Wendy Dalzell & David Eppich, Andrew & Valerie Dalzell (Jackson, William, Tyson, Rhys), Julia & Daniel Snell (Charlotte, Henry), Lana Archer & Greg Melnechuk, Mindy & Sean Rathburn (Grace, Olivia). Shane & Rachel Archer (Emily) Paul Archer, Chelsea & Kunal Ghose (Tobin), sister-in-law Phyllis Clark and many nieces and nephews and their families.

Though known for his shyness as a youth, at the age of nineteen, at a dance at Victoria's Crystal Gardens, he spotted a girl, danced with her the rest of the evening, and walked her home. A year later, he and “his Marjorie” were married. Ernie had a 30-year military career with the Royal Canadian Air Force as a radar fighter control operator and attained the rank of Captain. His job took him and his family from coast to coast, being stationed in Holberg and Vancouver, B.C.; St. Margarets, New Brunswick; Cranberry Portage, MB. St. Hubert, Quebec; Foymount and North Bay. Ontario; and Tacoma, Washington. After retirement, he worked with the Parks Department and for a summer was a park ranger. He then had a 10-year career with the Department of Education before retiring a second time. In his later years he did seasonal work for H&R Block.

Ernie was a man of integrity, loyalty and high moral

standards. He enjoyed being in the company of those he loved and was known for joking around. He would never say no to one more cookie, preferably with ice cream, or to bounce the latest family addition on his knee. He set a wonderful example of devotion to family and we all loved and admired him for his playfulness, generosity, kindness, encouragement, and over 40 years of reading 'The Night Before Christmas' to the little and not so little ones every Dec 24. We cherish the sincere interest he showed to his grandchildren's and great-grandchildren's pursuits, accomplishments, celebrations and sorrows and modelling so well, how to be a gentleman. He was proud of his Scottish heritage and modeled how to stay true to our core values. He has left us a legacy of love.

Even as his health deteriorated, he never complained, was forever thankful and always showed appreciation for visits from family. At the end of the visit he would say, "Thank you for coming." To him we say, "Thank you for being there."

Condolences may be offered to the family below.

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