

John Davidson Stewart

August 29th, 1916 – March 17th, 2009

John Davidson Stewart, surrounded by his family, passed peacefully into the presence of His Lord on March 17th, 2009. He was born in Victoria to John and May Stewart, the oldest of 7 children (Margaret, Andrew, Phyllis, Robin, Jeanie and Angus). John attended Beacon Hill School, North Ward Elementary and Boys Central. He had paper routes for both the Times and the Colonist during his growing up years and in 1935 he started at the Hudson Bay Company, working there until he began his career at the Victoria Fire Department in 1940. In October of 1943 he married Muriel Burkinshaw and then spent 1944-46 in the Navy before returning to the Victoria Fire Department. The birth of their 4 children began with Andrew in 1945 followed by Roy, Nina and Greg. John became Assistant Fire Chief 5 years before his retirement in 1976. In 1978 John began a new career as a Real Estate Agent. He retired for the second time 10 years later. Throughout his life John was a committed Christian and a wonderful support to his church families, Victoria Gospel and Oaklands Chapels. John had a character of uncompromising integrity, a simple transparent goodness and a deep and genuine love for the Lord.

John, predeceased by his parents and his brothers Andrew, Angus and Robin and sister Margaret, will be lovingly missed by Muriel, his wife of 65 years, children: Andrew (Anita), Roy (Carol), Nina (Brian) and Greg, his grandchildren: Dale (Kelly), Chris and Dave (Alana) Stewart, Jonathan (Shena) and Jamie (Stephanie) Craig, Leah and Karl Westlind, Lois Warren, plus seven great grandchildren, Sean, Jenna, Paige-Marie, Tyler, Ada, Brooke and Riley; John's sisters, Phyllis Aitken, Jeanie (Dave) Cooke and 2 sisters-in-law, Bea Stewart and Maureen Stewart as well as many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Donations in John's memory may be made to the Gideons International.

A Graveside service will be held at Royal Oak Burial Park on Wednesday, March 25th at 12:30 p.m., and a memorial service at Oaklands Chapel, 2736 Fernwood Road at 2 p.m. followed by a reception.

Heartfelt thanks to Ben and Elsa for their exceptional care of John over the past six months.