

William Donald Barkley

After a long battle with dementia, it is with great sadness that the family and friends of William “Bill” Donald Barkley announce his passing on July 11, 2016. Bill was a beloved son, husband, father, grandfather, and friend. He was the only son of Donald McMillan Barkley and Ethel Margaret Barkley (Mines) born in New Westminster, BC on April 4, 1941. Bill was predeceased by his father, mother, and his devoted wife, Helen “Gayle” Barkley (Alanson). Bill is survived by his son, Warren Barkley; daughter-in-law, Carrie Barkley; daughter, Colleen Cahoon; son-in-law, William “Doug” Cahoon; grandsons, William Cahoon, Erik Barkley, Peter Cahoon, and Wesley Barkley and cousin, Joy Adams.

After careers in teaching high school and wildlife management, Bill had an illustrious career in the museum industry, starting with his appointment to Assistant Director at the Royal BC Museum in 1977. One of his major accomplishments was championing the establishment of Crown Corporation status for the Museum. He enjoyed travelling with the staff on fieldtrip projects as well as hob-knobbing at openings and fundraising events.

Following his retirement as Executive Director of the RBCM in 2001, Bill took his experience and expertise to a wider audience across Canada through Bill Barkley Consulting. Bill and Bob Janes were the first principal consultants and advisors to the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg where Bill later became a member of the founding Board of Directors. Bill’s consulting was instrumental at the famous “Rooms” Museum in Newfoundland. He also brought advanced museological and organizational advice to museums in Quesnel, Prince George, Nanaimo and the lower mainland, and a mature approach to cultural planning to several municipal governments. Some of the travel for these consultation project trips included the packing of fishing and camping gear, so

Bill and his wife could enjoy the northern wilderness together.

Other assignments provided great opportunities for enjoyable and enriching road trips with fellow museum junkies – like Dave Jensen, Brent Cooke, Ian McLennan, Phil Aldrich, David Hall, and many others.

Bill was also a devoted and loving father, grandfather and friend who enjoyed spending his time with his grandchildren and hiking and sailing with his friend, Lew Townsend. Bill will be deeply missed by his friends and family.

Please join us in celebrating his life on July 25, 2016 at 2:00 pm at Cadboro Bay United Church.

Condolences may be offered to the family below.

McCall's Funeral Home

www.mccallbros.com