



## Mike Antifaoff 1921 - 2013

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Mike Antifaoff was born July 15, 1921 in a Doukhobor community near Kamsack, Saskatchewan, to parents Fred and Dora Antifaoff. Dora's maiden name was Cheveldeaoff. Mike was the fourth child of their family of six children – brothers Bill and Fred and sisters – Polly, Annie and Betty.

Mike had a limited English education, which he received in a school in Kelvington, Saskatchewan. The Russian language he learned from within the family and the community; basically at that time people of the Doukhobor faith only spoke Russian. In his younger years, Mike worked on their family farm and also for other farmers in the area. Working with horses he prepared the land for grain sowing, which included ploughing, cutting, harrowing and sowing. In the fall, after the combine work was finished he gathered grain sheaves and participated with others at threshing time. In those days many people throughout Saskatchewan were gathering, Herbs, Seneca Root, which they sold to stores and which in turn, were re-sold to customers for medical purposes. Mike recalled quite vividly, taking part with others gathering this herb, while still a young lad,

In the mid thirties, like many other Doukhobor families, they moved to British Columbia, to Grand Forks and settled in the area of Ruckle Addition. In his teen years Mike worked in the fruit orchards of the Okanagan Valley. In his leisure time he loved to play baseball.

In the late sixties, Mike met Mary Argotoff. In 1969 they were united in marriage and their life together

began in the area of Ruckle Addition. Their family consisted of six children. From a previous marriage, Mike had two sons, Michael and Wayne, and a step daughter, Audrey. Mary had three children, two daughters, Elsie and Grace, and one son Harold. All their children were treated as their very own.

Throughout his life Mike worked on several different jobs: in the Kootenay area on the Waneta Dam, on the bridge in Kelowna, and in the last 24 years, he worked for Public Freightways, delivering merchandise in the Grand Forks and Boundary area. When he reached the age of 65, he went into retirement.

Every year, together with his wife Mary, they grew a garden and Mike, being a handyman, looked after the home and yard. In their leisure time they loved traveling; they visited several Canadian Provinces and Western American states.

Mike was a member of the Union of Spiritual Communities of Christ and together with Mary participated in its activities and funerals.

In his elder years Mike's health started to decline and over time deteriorated considerably, suffering complications and pain, but still being able to live on their own. Some six months ago Mike and Mary moved to the Silver Kettle Residence, where on Wednesday morning, April 3, 2013, with his family by his side, Mike peacefully passed away. He was 91 years of age.

Mike was predeceased by his father Fred in 1936, mother Dora in 1962, brothers: Bill in 1970 and Fred

in 1997, sisters: Betty Hoodicoff in 1993, Annie Relkoff in 2002 and Pauline Messenger in 2003.

He is survived by his wife Mary with whom he lived for 44 years; his children: Michael with wife Laurel Antifaoff from Toronto Ontario, Wayne with his wife Susan Antifaoff of Vancouver and Audrey Baker from Vancouver, Harold Argotoff from Nanaimo B.C, Elsie Carmen from Penticton, Grace and Gaston Parkin from Castlegar; nine grand children – Patricia and Michael Antifaoff, Nicole with husband Mike Lacoste, Cindy with husband Donald Bonnington, Don Parkin, Holly Parkin, Sheri and husband Gary McPherson, Erin with husband Cari Daniels, Robert Argotoff with partner Kyla; ten great grand children: Kiska, Evan, Reanna, Tyler, Chelsi, Annia, Kate, Donavon, Tegan and Garcie and one great great granddaughter, Cally along with many

nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

Mike was a gentle Father and Grandfather and a hardworking person. He will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by his family, relatives and friends. A Funeral Service will be held Monday, April 8, 2013 at the USCC Community Center in Grand Forks, BC, with burial following at the Sion Cemetery Grand Forks, BC. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Everett Baker of Grand Forks Funeral home.

May God accept his soul into His Heavenly Abode, and may he rest in peace.

Those who may wish to make a donation in Mike's memory, may do so to the ISKRA Publication.



**In Memoriam**  
Vechnaya Pamyat

Preserving the memory of our deceased family members and friends