



Nick N. Nevokshonoff

Nick Nikolayevich Nevokshonoff was born on December 22nd, 1929, in Krestova, BC, to the family of Nikolai Koozmich and Helen (Legebokoff) Nevokshonoff. He was the third of six children, one of five sons and a daughter.

Nick lived in Krestova his entire life and outlived all his siblings, reaching the age of 82. He passed away suddenly at Kootenay Lake District Hospital in Nelson on January 27th, 2012, with his loving family by his side. Nick had suffered a severe stroke just two days earlier.

In 1932 Nick was apprehended when his parents were incarcerated in Piers Island. He was placed in foster care for about a year until the children were allowed to return to the community. Nick and his brother John were then given into the care of their Aunt and Uncle Kinakin in Grand Forks. After the release of Nick's parents from Piers Island the family moved back to Krestova.

In 1950 Nick, along with other community members, was incarcerated in Oakalla prison for a few months for reasons related to their religious beliefs.

At the age of 22, Nick married Polly Poznikoff of Krestova on May 20, 1951. They were blessed with 60 wonderful years of marriage and four children.

At an early age, Nick started working with his father in horse-logging and various small, local sawmills before hiring on with Waldie Sawmill in Castlegar and later with Celgar Sawmill, where he worked for 33 years. At age 59, due to ill health, Nick ceased working and spent his retirement taking care of his family and his beloved garden.

Nick was a very industrious man. In his younger years he enjoyed carving ladles. Nick loved gardening and nature. One of his favourite activities was to sit on the porch and watch the birds and the deer in his own back yard. Nick was known for his sense of humour. He enjoyed jokes and was either laughing himself or was making someone else laugh. Nick was a fixer. There was nothing that Nick couldn't fix, often with just electrical tape and haywire. Many times the broken item would be repaired and Nick would come in with cuts and bruises, needing

bandaging himself.

Nick had a strong belief in the Doukhorob faith and was a dedicated participant in the community. He served as caretaker of the Krestova Prayer Hall for several years. During that time, the kitchen was installed and a new well was dug for the Prayer Hall. Nick loved to sing with the Kootenay Psalmists and could always be counted on to recite psalms at prayer meetings and funerals.

Nick was predeceased by his mother Helen Nevokshonoff in 1992, his father Nikolai Koozmich Nevokshonoff in 1998, his brother John in 1979, brother Bill in 1984, brother Charlie in 1991, sister Alice in 2002 and his brother Serl in 2007.

Nick is survived by his devoted wife Polly, son Jim and wife Roni Nevokshonoff, son Norman and wife Annette Nevokshonoff, daughter Patsy and husband Max Chernenkoff, daughter Grace McCluskie; three grandsons: Stephen Nevokshonoff, Adam and wife Penny Chernenkoff, Derrick McCluskie; two granddaughters: Shanna and husband Steve Baslee and Sasha Chernenkoff; three great granddaughters: Ava and Sienna Baslee and Mila Chernenkoff, and a cousin: Irene Tamelin, as well as a large extended family.

On February 2, 2012 a traditional Doukhorob funeral was held for Nick at the Krestova Community Prayer Hall. Interment followed at the Krestova Cemetery.

The family of Nick Nevokshonoff would like to thank Castlegar Funeral Chapel for their professional service, Sid Malakoff for officiating at the funeral, Leonard Balchewski, the grave-diggers, Harry Zeabin, the cooks who provided an excellent meal, those who brought food to the house and baking to the Hall and the many friends and relatives that came to pay their respects. We would also like to extend a special thank you to Dr. McKechnie and to the staff of Kootenay Lake District Hospital for the excellent care they provided. Thank you to all who gave us sympathy and support and especially to John J. Verigin Jr. for his words of comfort.

Our family is saddened by Nick's unexpected passing. We will miss him forever. May God accept him into his Heavenly Kingdom. May he rest in Peace.

In Memoriam Vechnaya Pamyat

Preserving the memory of our deceased family members and friends