



## Peter Dutoff 1913 - 2012

Surrounded by love with his family at his side, on May 3, 2012 Peter passed into his new life to reunite with his wife Pauline in Heaven.

Peter was born on June 15, 1913 in Glade BC, and at a very early age his family moved up to the North Fork Valley (Bozhiya Dalyeena). He had very pleasant memories of growing up there including: sleigh-riding in the area that is now Pines Bible Camp, swimming in the Granby river and skating on it in the winter. He really wanted to skate but they had no skates in the family, so with the help of his Grandfather they built his first and only pair of skates. They took some wood and carved a form to fit the bottom of his boots, and shaped it into a curved blade shape. They then cut a groove in the bottom of the blade part and put in heavy wire. The wire being round, did not give him any traction on the ice. He spent more time on his bottom than skating, but he had a great time!!! He spoke of how he used to go hazelnut picking in the fall, on the other side of the river, with his mother. They would pick sacks full, and float them back across. From an early age he learned to work hard, and appreciate nature, and to be grateful for whatever you had. They lived in several different areas of the valley until they finally settled in Gilpin.

Peter worked at many different jobs in his lifetime, from farm work in Cascade, and the west Boundary, to orchard work in the Okanagan area. To get to work in the Okanagan, Peter and his friends would jump into a

boxcar on a slow-moving train, and ride to McCullough. They would then walk down the mountain, or if they were very lucky, someone would give them a ride. Living away from home for much of the year, he learned to be very self-sufficient. He learned to make borscht and pyrahi, and many other foods. He also learned to sew and mend. Peter and his work buddies would trade haircuts, so he learned to be a barber, also.

When Peter was 29, he met the love of his life, Pauline. Peter and Pauline were married on April 30, 1944. A year later, they were blessed with the birth of their first daughter Molly. After Molly was born, they worked for a time in the West Boundary where Peter worked at the sawmill and Pauline cooked for the work crew. They also spent a lot of time working in the orchards in the Okanagan. Their second daughter Luba soon joined the family, and three years later, Olga was welcomed.

Peter worked at many other jobs until he was able to get employment with Parta Industries. He started during the construction phase, and permanently left his mark when he accidentally dropped his hammer into the forms while the cement was being poured. When the forms were removed, the hammer was spotted in the newly formed wall, and it remained there throughout the days of Parta, and later on, Canpar. The rest of his working years were spent there until his retirement. He was a very dedicated employee and Parta proved to be a second home for him.

Peter loved everything related to the outdoors. He loved to garden, and he loved to keep bees; they were like his other children. He had many fruit trees and he was a master pruner. He had an amazing ability to transform scrubby trees into beautiful well-producing trees. He shared his knowledge with anyone willing to learn. Peter and Pauline loved to garden and cook together; they worked great as a team. They really enjoyed their time spent with the grandchildren and loved them all dearly. They loved to travel, and their most memorable trip was to Victoria for a friend's niece's wedding. They had fun trying to navigate their way through different places to visit friends and family.

Peter and Pauline shared their life together for almost 50 years. When Pauline passed away, Peter was very lonely without her. He had his coffee buddies and enjoyed going to Robin's Donuts and the Borscht Bowl. Later, after he stopped driving, he would go with his good friend, Jim, or ride the transit bus to the coffee shop. They had lifelong friends, Nick and Polly, and when each of their spouses passed away, Peter and Polly supported each other and continued with their friendship.

Four years ago Peter moved into Boundary Lodge, when it became too difficult to be on his own at home,

even with the excellent care of his home support workers and family. At Boundary Lodge, Peter still enjoyed maintaining a small garden and keeping busy wherever he could, with the help of his family. As his health continued to decline, he was moved to Hardy View Lodge, where he spent his last year. Peter knew the importance of keeping busy and always having something useful to do, right up until his final year.

Peter was predeceased by his father Alexander in 1968, mother Polly in 1980, loving wife Pauline in 1994, his sister-in-law Jacquie Dutove in 2005, his nephew Sam Dutoff in 2009 and Sam's wife, Sophie, in 1991. Peter will be missed very much by his daughters: Molly Nazar, Luba (Doug) White and Olga (Halvor) Carlson; his grandchildren: Raymond (Karen), Tamara (Jim), Sherry, Chris, Rhea (Renn) and Alyssa; three great-grandchildren: Ryan, Tasha and Brendan; his sister Vera and brothers Nick and Fred (Tina); nephews Alec (Doris), Michael (Lou), Fred (Pearl) and Harvey (Judy) and a niece, Katie (Peter), and many loved ones and good friends.

Funeral services were held on Monday, May 7, 2012, with interment at Evergreen Cemetery; Grand Forks Funeral Home had care of arrangements; Paul J. Seminoff officiating.



## In Memoriam Vechnaya Pamyat

Preserving the memory of our deceased family members and friends