

# **EULOGY**

## **HAROLD EARL SLUTSKY**

**JANUARY 6, 1926 - MARCH 24, 2007**

**HAROLD PASSED PEACEFULLY AT GREY NUNS HOSPITAL ON MARCH 24<sup>th</sup>, AT THE AGE OF 81**

**HAROLD WAS BORN IN WINNIPEG, THE ELDEST OF 3 CHILDREN. HE WAS PREDECEASED BY HIS PARENTS FREDA AND SIDNEY SLUTSKY AS WELL AS HIS DAUGHTER WENDY SLUTSKY (WHO PASSED AWAY SUDDENLY FROM CANCER IN JANUARY 2006). HE WAS THE LOVING FATHER OF VALLI O'REILLY AND IS ALSO SURVIVED BY HIS BROTHER MORRIS, SISTER SHIRLEY AND VALLI'S MOTHER RHODA, WHO HE ALWAYS REFERRED TO AS HIS "PRINCESS".**

**HAROLD WAS BORN IN WINNIPEG. HE RECEIVED HIS EARLY EDUCATION IN LEGAL, ALBERTA AND BAWLF ALBERTA BEFORE HIS FAMILY MOVED TO EDMONTON WHERE HE ATTENDED VICTORIA HIGH SCHOOL. HE HAD A KEEN INTEREST IN EVERYTHING NAVAL. HAROLD JOINED THE SEA CADETS AND UPON GRADUATION FROM VICTORIA HIGH SCHOOL IN 1944 AT 17 YEARS OF AGE, HE JOINED THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY. HE TOOK HIS BASIC TRAINING AT CORNWALLIS NAVAL BASE IN NOVA SCOTIA WHERE HE ALSO ATTENDED ASDIC SCHOOL AND BECAME AN ANTI-SUBMARINE DETECTOR.**

**HAROLD SERVED IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC ON THE HMCS MEON, A BRITISH FRIGATE ON LOAN TO THE CANADIAN NAVY. ITS JOB WAS TO HUNT "WOLF PACKS" AND BE PART OF CONVOYS ESCORTING EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES TO ENGLAND.**

**WHEN WORLD WAR II ENDED, HAROLD RETURNED TO CIVILIAN LIFE AND ENTERED THE PHARMACEUTICAL FIELD, FIRST IN RETAIL AND THEN AS DISTRICT MANAGER FOR SEVERAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES. HE SPENT MANY YEARS IN MONTREAL AND TORONTO BEFORE RETURNING TO EDMONTON. OVER THE YEARS HE WAS AFFILIATED WITH THE ASSOCIATION FOR PRACTITIONERS IN INFECTION CONTROL, ATLANTA CENTRE FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, COMMUNITY AND HOSPITAL INFECTION CONTROL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA AND THE CANADIAN PROFESSIONAL SALES ASSOCIATION.**

**IT WAS NO SURPRISE THAT HAROLD BECAME A "CLEANLINESS EXPERT". IT SEEMED TO BE INBORN! (WE USED TO TEASE HIM ABOUT IT)**

**HE WAS ALSO INVOLVED IN CITY AND FEDERAL POLITICS. HE SERVED AS A DIRECTOR OF THE WEST EDMONTON CONSTITUENCY OF THE LIBERAL PARTY OF CANADA, WORKING ON ELECTION CAMPAIGNS FOR ANNE MCLELLAN.**

HAROLD'S LIFELONG LOVE OF THE NAVY SAW HIM INVOLVED AS AN OFFICER AND INSTRUCTOR IN THE EDMONTON SEA CADETS. HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, STRATHCONA BRANCH EDMONTON, SECRETARY OF THE NAVAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (EDMONTON BRANCH); HE SERVED AS PRESIDENT OF THE NAVY LEAGUE OF CANADA (EDMONTON BRANCH) AND AS CHAIRMAN FUND RAISING COMMITTEE (ALBERTA DIVISION) AND WAS A MEMBER OF HMCS EDMONTON COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE.

HE WAS AN AVID CURLER AND GOLFER BEFORE SUFFERING A DEBILITATING STROKE IN 2001, FOLLOWING WHICH HE BECAME A RESIDENT AT THE COLONEL MEWBURN VETERANS CENTRE (NOW THE KIPNES CENTRE FOR VETERANS) IN EDMONTON. ALTHOUGH LIFE WAS CHALLENGING, HE LOVED TO DRESS UP FOR REMEMBRANCE DAY AND ANY OTHER MAJOR EVENTS. UNTIL JUST A FEW MONTHS AGO, HAROLD WAS ABLE TO ATTEND FOOTBALL AND HOCKEY GAMES IN HIS WHEELCHAIR.

HE ALWAYS LOOKED FORWARD TO FREQUENT VISITS FROM HIS DAUGHTER VALLI (WHO LIVES IN LOS ANGELES). AND HE WAS SO PROUD WHEN SHE WON THE OSCAR FOR MAKEUP IN 2005. HE WAS SO ENTHUSIASTIC, HE PHONED THE EDMONTON JOURNAL AT MIDNIGHT TO MAKE SURE IT WAS IN THE LOCAL NEWS THE NEXT DAY. (HAROLD HAD A "PREMONITION" 2 YEARS EARLIER, THAT VALLI WOULD BE ON A RED CARPET AND HE TOLD HER THAT SHE SHOULD GET HERSELF A NICE BLACK DRESS)

HAROLD WAS HONOURED FOR HIS DEDICATION AND COMPASSIONATE INTEREST AND WORKS IN THE COMMUNITY AND WAS AWARDED THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE MEDAL IN 2002. IT WAS PRESENTED BY THE LATE LT. GOVERNOR LOIS HOLE.

HAROLD WAS THE "POSTER BOY" FOR CAPITAL CARE, ORIGINALLY AT THE MEWBURN AND NOW THE KIPNES CENTRE. FOLLOWING CELEBRATIONS, LIKE POPPY DAY AT CITY HALL OR REMEMBRANCE DAY AT THE BUTTER DOME, HAROLD (WHO WAS ALWAYS SMARTLY DRESSED WITH ALL HIS MEDALS PROUDLY DISPLAYED) SEEMED TO BE THE ONE THAT WHO ALWAYS REPRESENTED THE ARMED SERVICES BY EITHER BEING INTERVIEWED ON TV OR WHOSE PHOTO APPEARED IN THE EDMONTON JOURNAL OR SUN.

HE WAS AN HONOURABLE MAN WITH A NOBLE SPIRIT AND WILL BE SADLY MISSED BY ALL WHO KNEW HIM.

THE FAMILY WISHES TO SEND SPECIAL THANKS TO THE DOCTORS AND NURSES AT THE GREY NUNS HOSPITAL FOR THEIR CARE AND TO REV. HARRY KUPERUS AND COUSINS JUNE AND HAL SIMONS, FOR THEIR LOVING CARE AND COMMITMENT. THANKS ALSO TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NAVY LEAGUE, ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION AND OTHER FRIENDS WHO ARE HERE TO HONOUR HAROLD TODAY. FOR MANY OF YOU IT WAS LONG-TERM FRIENDSHIP.

FOLLOWING THE INTERMENT, EVERYONE IS INVITED TO A LUNCHEON AT THE BETH SHALOM SYNAGOGUE LOCATED ON JASPER AVENUE & 120th STREET. THERE IS PARKING BEHIND THE SYNAGOGUE ON THE NORTH SIDE.