



MELNYK

July 10, 1918 -

Orest Melnyk of Calgary died Thursday, June 14, 2012, at the age of 93 years. Orest was born July 10, 1918. While very interested in sports and swimming.

During WWII, Orest joined the military and was soon promoted to sergeant. While stationed briefly in England before going overseas to India and Ceylon. Upon his return he settled in Cadomin, Alberta, and Mona were born. Orest and Mona moved to Edmonton and settled in the Drafting Services when he retired.

Orest and Willa spent their retirement dancing it up at the R. Edm. He enjoyed playing soccer games and touring Cornish game hens and were also favourite pastimes they enjoyed travelling to Honolulu, where they spent each year. Las Vegas was a favourite vacation.

They moved to Victoria, B.C., and both loved the climate. They moved to Edmonton when health declined, and he was surrounded by family.

He is survived by his wife Willa and his daughter M. grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents Willa, his parents' six siblings.

A small luncheon will be held at Gordon's Calgary home 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on June 14, 2012, at 403-236-7909. For more information through www.mccinnis.com friends so desire, memorials made directly to the Institute for the Blind, 1000 Place N.E., Calgary, AB T2C 1V6 (403-261-7219). In lieu of flowers, a tree will be planted in Provincial Park.

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POLLOCK, Norman Joel
July 30, 1957 - June 21, 2012



It is with great sadness that we announce the peaceful passing of Norm Pollock at the age of 54 years on June 21, 2012 at his home in Edmonton, AB, following a brave battle with ALS.

Norm will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by his wife, Janet, sons Shawn and David, mother Arnice (Winnipeg), sisters Carol (Vancouver) and Ellen (Stewart) (Winnipeg), brother Kenny (Lori) (Phoenix) as well as his entire extended family and his many, many friends. He was predeceased by his father, Harold, in 2008.

Norm was born and raised in Winnipeg. After three years of study at the University of Manitoba, he moved to Edmonton in 1978 to complete his law studies at the University of Alberta, graduating in 1980 as one of the top students in his class. His 32 year legal career was nothing short of brilliant, and he will be remembered as a skilled and compassionate litigator by his law partners, associates and staff at the firm of Witten LLP, by the many lawyers he practiced with and against, by the many judges he appeared before, by the many students at the U of A Faculty of Law he taught as a sessional lecturer of Trial Advocacy for 17 years, and by his many clients who were privileged to know him and benefit from his devotion to them and their causes.

Norm was a skilled athlete and moved with grace and ease from sport to sport. He was particularly skilled at his first love - baseball. He was a founder of the Edmonton Jewish Baseball League and the Edmonton Jewish Hockey League and he took his turn behind the bench to coach his son David's minor hockey and soccer teams. He was a lifetime golfer and delighted in organizing annual golf tours with his friends. The highlight of his sporting life was their pilgrimage to Scotland in 2007 to play the Old Course at St. Andrews, a trip taken a few months after Norm was diagnosed with ALS.

Throughout his life, Norm devoted many hours to community service volunteer activities, nearly always as a leader by deed and by example. His service started during his high school years as a leader in B'nai Brith Youth Organization and continued during his adult years as a member of various boards, including the Alzheimer Society of Alberta, the ALS Society of Alberta, and the Talmud Torah Society. Norm and Janet joined with other families to create the first Fragile X parents support group in Edmonton.

The Province of Alberta appointed Norm a Queen's Counsel at a relatively early stage in his legal career. Her Majesty clearly took note of his continuing service throughout his life, when six days prior to Norm's passing, His Honour, the Honourable Lt. Governor Donald Ethell and Her Honour Mrs. Linda Ethell paid a visit to Norm and Janet at their home to award Norm the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for Norm's outstanding contributions to Canadian society through his work on behalf of the ALS Society of Canada.

Norm collected friends by osmosis. His engaging, strong-willed personality, energy, and passion for life drew people to him like a magnet. His closest group of friends became the boys of FLG - the Friday Lunch Group, who have been meeting for over 30 years. His absence will leave a major gap at the table.

Above all, Norm cherished his family. He fell in love with Janet at their first meeting and immediately proclaimed that he would one day marry her. They were married in 1979 and Janet remained the love of his life. Janet, together with their sons Shawn and David, were the rocks who provided comfort and loving support during the final years of his life as he struggled valiantly and courageously with the knowledge that the insidious disease that afflicted his body would ultimately end his life.

Norm's family extends their utmost gratitude and appreciation to the ALS Society of Alberta, the ALS Clinic, and the wonderful team of doctors, nurses, caregivers, and friends who sustained and supported them through the most difficult and darkest of times.

In lieu of flowers, Norm's family asks that donations be made in Norm's memory to the ALS Society of Alberta at: www.alsab.ca. Norm's funeral will be held on Sunday, June 24 at 11:00 a.m. at the Edmonton Chevra Kadisha Chapel at 12313-105 Avenue, with interment to follow at the Edmonton Jewish Cemetery at 7622-101 Avenue.