



Mr. Donald Clarke Crawford

January 23, 1926 - June 26, 2023

It is with heavy hearts and great sadness that we announce the passing of Donald C. Crawford at Shepherd's Gardens (Retirement Home) in Edmonton, Alberta, early morning of Monday, June 26, 2023.

Don was born January 23rd, 1926, in Spring Coulee, Alberta to parents Goldie (Clarke) and William Crawford who passed away at a very young age. Don was only 3 yrs old, the youngest of a family of 6 when the family moved to Lethbridge after Goldie married Jim Rollingson. Don is predeceased by his parents and siblings, his first wife Irene, and both sons, Jim and Bob.

Don is lovingly remembered and survived by his wife of 41 years, Sal, daughter Diane (Beattie) of Calgary, and Sal's children, Suzanne of Las Vegas, Michelle and Tom of Edmonton. He will also be greatly missed by his 15 grandchildren, 23 great grandchildren, extended family and friends.

His earlier years of acquiring experience in home building with Beaver and Nelson Lumber in various positions gave him the knowledge to start a Homes Division with Beaver, and then with half ownership of Imperial Homes in Edmonton. The late 70's saw him starting his own company, Crawford Homes in Aldersyde, close to High River/Calgary, in partnership with his 2 sons and son-in-law.

From there, Don ventured into the International market supplying a large home to Kuwait (a palace). Following his first international success and after lengthy negotiations, home packages were shipped to Japan, which led to building a factory in Hokkaido, Japan with Don as President and consultant for over 10 years. In the early '90s he shipped home packages to Germany, Russia, built a factory in Poland, and a large apartment complex in China.

After 20 years in the domestic and international panelized home building industry he retired from the daily rigors of ownership. However, even at 71 yrs of age he still maintained various successful entrepreneurial activities for several years later, domestically and abroad.

Before and after his retirement, Don found joy with his wife Sal, traveling worldwide for business and pleasure achieving a substantial travel portfolio. Cruising in the Caribbean, a six week cruise/excursion in SE Asia and his numerous business trips to Japan were his most favorite and memorable. Among his interests were golf, fishing trips to the coast, large and small family/friend gatherings, and entertaining on his deck in all of his homes. Playing crib with kids and grandkids, hockey and football games, walks on his treadmill and reading the Calgary Herald daily from cover to cover were common activities in the Crawford home.

Don was a generous, caring and hard working person. Inside all of us who knew him he leaves behind a portion of his vast work ethic and unparalleled approach to business and life, which served us all well. He was always generous with his time, whether it be business associates, friends, children or grandchildren. He especially loved having lengthy conversations with younger family members, always inquisitive of what they were doing in their business and personal lives.

Don's inquisitive mind, great sense of humor and any time spent with him

sharing many treasured memories, photos, stories and laughter over the years will be greatly missed.

A Graveside Service will take place at the Highwood Cemetery on Friday, August 11, 2023 at 1:00 PM. A Celebration of Don's Life will follow at the High River Royal Canadian Legion from 2:00PM-5:00PM.

Caring for the family is Lyle Reeves Funerals of High River (Craig Snodgrass) 403.652.4242.

Cemetery Details

Highwood Cemetery

High River, AB (CA)

Previous Events

Graveside Service

AUG 11. 1:00 PM (MT)

Highwood Cemetery
High River, AB (CA)

Celebration of Life Service

AUG 11. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (MT)

High River Royal Canadian Legion #71
25 - 8th Ave. SE
High River, AB T1V 1E8 (CA)
(403) 652-3770

Tribute Wall

JB

“ Jack And Carleen Bil lit a candle in memory of Mr. Donald Clarke Crawford



Jack and Carleen Bil - September 06, 2023 at 04:31 PM

GP

“ Geri And Al Polanchek lit a candle in memory of Mr. Donald Clarke Crawford



Geri and Al Polanchek - July 11, 2023 at 12:41 PM

TF

“ The Rocher Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Donald Clarke Crawford



The Rocher Family - July 09, 2023 at 10:18 PM

BH

“ Bill & Dorothy Holmes lit a candle in memory of Mr. Donald Clarke Crawford



Bill & Dorothy Holmes - July 08, 2023 at 10:23 AM

CB

“ Jimmy and the Crawford family. So sorry to hear about your grandfather. Thoughts and prayers are with you.



Cathy Bradley - July 06, 2023 at 11:31 AM

JR

“ I really enjoyed talking with Don in the pool at our aquasize classes. We always made each other laugh. He had a very admirable career that I just read about, and I'm not surprised. RIP Don



Jane Russell - July 05, 2023 at 09:28 PM

BF

“ Dearest Sally. My deepest sympathies go to you and your families. My late husband Larry Flug and I spent many, many happy and interesting summer outings with Don to areas around High River golfing. Phil Schultz and we three golfed together. All had vision and hearing problems so the games were very interesting and at times very comical. Vulcan, Fort Macleod, Claresholm and High River were our stomping grounds. Those days were very enjoyable. We were blessed to have the three of them as long as we did. I hope you have wonderful memories also and will enjoy them as you go forward on a new journey. God Bless. Love Beverly Flug.

Beverly Flug - July 02, 2023 at 04:35 PM

CA

“ *Connie Rae Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Donald Clarke Crawford*



Connie Rae Anderson - June 30, 2023 at 03:07 PM

BF

Dearest Sally. My deepest sympathies go to you and your families. My late husband Larry Flug and I spent many, many happy and interesting summer outings with Don to areas around High River golfing. Phil Schultz and we three golfed together. All had vision and hearing problems so the games were very interesting and at times very comical. Vulcan, Fort Macleod, Claresholm and High River were our stomping grounds. Those days were very enjoyable. We were blessed to have the three of them as long as we did. I hope you have wonderful memories also and will enjoy them as you go forward on a new journey. God Bless. Love Beverly Flug.

Beverly Flug - July 02, 2023 at 01:05 PM

KB

“ *Sal and Family... when one lives the life Don did, it will always be difficult to say "Goodbye"... he started out with Beaver lumber.. then went on with his Sons build Crawford Homes.. and through that Company he impacted so many people in this area, as well as internationally. the family he has left behind are some of the finest citizens I have ever met, and by simply knowing him, and the lessons he would share over some wine, I too owe him a debt of gratitude. this is not a sad time, instead it is one to reflect and smile, for someone with a life such as Don's so richly deserves to be with Jim and Bob... and sit back drink some good wine, and look down upon all of us living our best lives possible... and Smile for us, I am sure that's what all three of them would want.*



Ken Braat - June 29, 2023 at 04:52 PM



Thanks for that share, Ken-

karen Crawford - August 12, 2023 at 06:30 PM