

Mr. George Karch

June 4, 1935 - October 25, 2019

George Karch of Calgary, AB passed away on October 25, 2019 at the Peter Lougheed Hospital at the age of 84. George is survived by his wife Noreen; daughters Karla Karch (Brian Armitstead), and Kendra Karch-Sinclair; favorite son, Maury Karch (Leona Esau); grandchildren Dallas, and Payton (Rebekah). A Celebration of Life will take place at a later date. George was predeceased by his parents, Ben and Emelie Karch, sister Helen Kozak and son-in-law Bob Sinclair.

George was born in Calgary, Alberta to Ben and Emelie Karch who emigrated from Czechoslovakia in 1929. Geo lived and attended primary school in the Bridgeland area of Calgary. As a child, he was very active in a variety of sports, including hockey, basketball and skiing. After graduating from Western Canada High School, Geo attended SAIT where he received a surveying and drafting diploma.

In 1955, he started his career with Shell. For the next 31 years, work allowed Geo to see all parts of Canada, mostly working with seismic, as well as off shore surveying.

During Geo's work with Shell he was stationed in southern Saskatchewan and in 1956 he caught the eye of a young nurse at a house party in Weyburn. This young nurse, along with her many sisters, would cruise the streets of Weyburn in their dad's Chevy checking out the boys. Obviously, Geo was smitten with this young lady, Noreen, as he proceeded to follow her to California for a visit while she was working there as a nurse. After he proposed to Noreen they returned to Weyburn where they were married. Soon after, work allowed them to relocate to Calgary.

In 1961, Geo and Nor welcomed their first child, Maury (Moe). Not long after, they transferred to Edmonton where their second child, Kendra, entered the world. Another move for Geo had the family living in Vancouver where their third child, Karla, came along.

Upon returning to Edmonton in 1969, Geo and Nor bought lake front property at Pigeon Lake where they actively participated in many activities throughout their fifty years of

enjoyment. Geo's favorite sports were golfing and water skiing. Throughout the seventies, Geo competed at local, provincial, and international water skiing competitions. Many cabin owners would remember seeing his ski jump and slalom course along with the Up-Two ski boat. Golfing became a bigger focus throughout the eighties and he continued with this love through to 2015.

Throughout Geo's life he was a hobbyist. He loved to fix up the Datsun's for use by himself or his children. We still don't know the complete story of how he fixed one of the troublesome cars that supposedly was an "easy fix". Geo took that one to the grave. He enjoyed putzing around any garage, pick-a-part, Kendra's acreage, always looking to fix or repair something.

George will be remembered for his sense of humour, his "Geoism" such as "it's just a question", "don't get me wrong", "why is everyone so serious", "skill and high IQ", and "I didn't feel a thing". Family meant everything to Geo. Earlier this summer Noreen and George celebrated their 60th Anniversary and in early September he had the pleasure of seeing his eldest grandson get married.

Geo will be forever missed and much loved!

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

Tribute Wall

GA

“ Hello Noreen and Family,
Please accept our condolences for your loss of George. We are sorry for being so late in contacting you but we just found out. We have always appreciated how welcoming you, George, and your children were when we bought the lot next to you on Argentia Beach, and the help and advice that was provided as we learned the ropes! Lots of happy memories of that time. Our thoughts are with you and we hope you are all doing well. Please give us a call at 780 487 2979 if you would like to catch up on the last few years.
Geoff & Barb Allam and family.

Geoff Allam - October 29, 2020 at 11:15 AM

BC

“ I have known George since High School and kept running into him over the years. Always pleasant to be with and always a smile on his face. A pretty good golfer to boot. Our deepest condolences to Noreen and the family. He will be deeply missed.

Bryce & Ann Cox

Bryce Cox - January 12, 2020 at 11:32 PM



“ Sending my hugs and love from Winnipeg. So sad to hear the news of George's passing. I have many fond memories of George and your family who welcomed me when I came to school at UofC and played ball with Karla. I'm so happy I got to see you both and visit last spring on my way through town. My thoughts are with you all. Hugs
Carol Ploen

Carol Ploen-Hosegood - December 10, 2019 at 12:25 PM

KA

Thanks Carol. Deeply missed by all of us and will always be in our hearts!

Karla - January 07, 2020 at 11:50 PM

SD

“ We are saddened by the sudden passing of George and offer our condolences to Noreen and Family. One event we will always remember was the time when we were newly married (1963) and went tenting with you at the lake. Jean was not impressed about sleeping the hard ground..
Stan and Jean Denesuk

Stanley Denesuk - December 03, 2019 at 04:34 PM

NK

Thank you Stan & Jean for your kind thoughts. I so remember that week end. Maury was about 6 months old in his bouncy chair- slept in the shade while most of the adults went water skiing. That was a fun time.
George wanted us all to know that his 84 years were the very best ones of life especially the 60 years of marriage celebrated last June with Noreen.

Noreen Karch - December 06, 2019 at 12:02 AM

BK

“ So many special memories. Graduations, Christmas, Phoenix, basketball events, family celebrations, Pigeon Lake, weddings. Always loved. Forever missed.
Brenda



Brenda Karch - November 17, 2019 at 06:36 PM

KA

Thanks for your kind words!

Karla - November 20, 2019 at 11:05 PM

NO

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Noreen - November 11, 2019 at 07:16 PM

NO

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Noreen - November 11, 2019 at 03:10 PM

NO

Grand memories of Shells marvelous celebration

Noreen - November 11, 2019 at 05:38 PM

NO

I remember it well - that was a fun night- We spoke of it many times. N

Noreen - November 11, 2019 at 07:59 PM

NO

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Noreen - November 11, 2019 at 03:04 PM

NO

Along Long Beach QCI a beautiful trip

Noreen - November 11, 2019 at 05:41 PM

KT

“ *Please accept our deepest sympathy of the passing of George. He will be missed by many.*

Teri and Ken Thompson

Ken Thompson - November 11, 2019 at 01:54 PM

NO

*Thank you Ken and Teri for remembering George, but then how could anyone forget that guy? We all go a way back and of course he had made so many memories especially with the working guys. Its wonderful to hear from all of you.
Hugs Noreen*

Noreen - November 11, 2019 at 05:09 PM

DM

“ I was sorry to read that George had passed away recently. Our condolences to the family. I certainly enjoyed George’s humour and the stories he shared with me at work. He will be missed.

Dave & Linda McWilliam

Dave McWilliam - November 11, 2019 at 11:36 AM

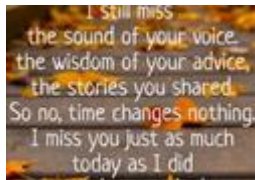
NO

*Thank you for the kind words Dave and Linda.
Georges humour was like no other our whole 60 years of being married... Sure miss that guy already but you know he was at peace sleeping into his chosen place.
.We will all have good memories of George as he really deserves. Noreen & Family*

Noreen - November 11, 2019 at 05:18 PM

KE

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Kendra - November 10, 2019 at 03:56 PM

JM

“ Our family has so many fond memories of George where our friendship began as Karch’s neighbours at Pigeon Lake 30+ years ago. George always had a little twinkle in his eyes and a grin on his face and you just knew he was planning another shenanigan. Our kids will always remember Santa, a.k.a. George’s visits on Christmas morning. He paid his last visit to our house on December 25th, 2017 - a very special visit indeed.

Noreen, Maury, Kendra and Karla our hearts go out to you during this very difficult time and hopefully the wonderful memories you have of George will help ease your pain.

The Murphy Family

Judy Murphy - November 10, 2019 at 03:05 PM

NO

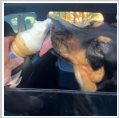
Judy and Family Thank you so much for your very kind words. And yes, you sure did know George. It is exactly what George would have said " why is everyone so serious?" Then you will never know that the Santa run was the highlight of his almost every year- 2017 had son Maury at the driver wheel! Over the years each of the family took turns in that job. Also Thanks to you and Janelle for the wise words and care to follow as we get into settling matters....Never drank so much water Janelle xoxo Hugs to all the Murphys luv you lots

Noreen - November 11, 2019 at 05:34 PM

HB

“ *So sad to hear that your Dad didn't recover. My heart and prayers are with you. It's hard to not have him with you and your family but you will always have your wonderful memories.*

Heather Burton - November 09, 2019 at 08:41 PM



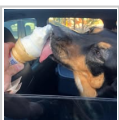
Thank you Heather for your words. The memories will live with us forever!

Karla Karch - November 10, 2019 at 10:21 PM

LD

“ *Hey ... my golfing buddy Karla ... I read this obituary this morning. My sincere condolences. Hugs to you. And all that other the other good stuff you know I always wish your way. LU*

LU Dodd - November 09, 2019 at 08:23 PM



Thank you Lu, my first round of golf will definitely be in his honour!

Karla Karch - November 10, 2019 at 10:22 PM

WK

“ *Noreen & family: are deepest condolences. We haven't seen you in many years but still relish the time or our association at Shell Oil and a wonderful weekend at your cabin on the lake . Our thoughts are with you at this time. Gloria & Bill Kaufmann*

William Kaufmann - November 09, 2019 at 06:22 PM

NO

*Well Hello Bill & Gloria So good to hear from you even in these tough times. George was a healthy guy but its hard to beat an aortic aneurysm that left him with no kidney functions. His life would have been torcherous. We know that he is at peace after a beautiful sleep into beyond. We miss him so much as we honor all the memories he left us over the 60 years of marriage.
Hugs to both of you xo Noreen & Family*

Noreen - November 09, 2019 at 10:27 PM

DP

“ *Noreen & family,
My sincerest sympathy for your loss. George brightened the day of anyone who crossed his path with his friendly smile and funny stories. He will be missed.*

Doug Phillips

Doug Phillips - November 09, 2019 at 09:35 AM

NO

Thank You so much for your kind words. Noreen

Noreen - November 11, 2019 at 03:13 PM

CB

*Noreen
Our deepest condolences on George's passing. We know he will be greatly missed but you and the family have a lot of wonderfull memories
Carl & Phyllis*

Carl Bonke - November 11, 2019 at 06:55 PM

NO

*Thank you so much for your kind words... We miss him already but of course the family were able to enjoy his last 3 weeks to the fullest....His mind was clear to the end and then he peacefully made his journey calmly, as he slept away the hours to his place beyond. He was a good guy, Great Husband, and wonderful father - He'll be forever with us in our many special memories.
God speed Geo or 3 feathers as he was known(all his hats had feathers !!!) Many thanks Carl & Phyllis Noreen & Family*

Noreen - November 11, 2019 at 07:41 PM

JH

Noreen, Maury and the Karch Family. We were very sorry to hear of your loss of George. Our family has many fun memories of George (and your family) from the early days when Alex and him worked together at Shell. I always looked forward to seeing him when he and Dad car-pooled to work, because he always joked-around and was fun to be around. I believe I have heard that George and Alex were mutual best-men at their respective weddings? I last chatted with George at Alex's funeral in 2017, and I know that having him there brought our family great comfort.. On behalf my mother (Jean) and all of the Hittel family, please accept our heartfelt and very sincere condolences on your loss. Kindest Regards, Jim Hittel.

jim hittel - November 26, 2019 at 06:58 PM