



**REMEMBERING**  
**Gerhard Klassen**

April 13, 1928 - February 27, 2021



Gerhard Klassen was born on April 13, 1928 in the Ukraine. He survived the horrific Stalin purges and WW11. As a refugee he emigrated to Paraguay in 1948 with the help of MCC. In 1950 he married Elisabeth Klassen and they were blessed with 6 children. He farmed cotton and peanuts until he saw no future in the hardships of the Chaco for his children. In 1957 with the help of his relatives in Canada he immigrated to Vancouver to begin a new trade and to learn English. Eventually he started his own business called Klassen and Sons Heating Ltd. He taught his family to have a strong work ethic, to take time out for recreation, and to serve God. His faith was most evident when he prayed for all occasions. He was a very thankful man who overcame many difficulties in his health, education, and poverty. However he was rich in faith, opportunities, and creativity. He was generous to his church, family, and friends. His grandchildren loved his storytelling over mate' or coffee time. He leaves behind his loving wife of 70 years, his children, Lis (Terry) Friesen, George (Laura), Peter (Helga), Herta (Ken), Will (Margarete), and Reiner (Wendy), 18 grandchildren and their families including 31 great grandchildren. He lived a life of trusting in his Father in Heaven and his Savior Jesus Christ. He went home into the presence of God on February 27, 2021.

In lieu of flowers a donation to MCC is appreciated.

