



## REMEMBERING Hans Voth

January 7, 1937 - May 19, 2016



Hans Voth was born on January 7th, 1937 to David and Anna Voth in #14 - Blumenau Fernheim Paraguay. He always told us that he was born in a small cabin built under a bottle tree. His father died when Hans was only 4 years old. He grew up with one sister, Anna and 5 brothers: Peter, Hein, David, Abram and Fritz. Sadly, Fritz passed away only two months ago.

Hans was baptized when he was in his late teens. At the age of 21, he met Marichen Fast and on May 25th 1958 they became engaged. Hans and Marichen were married on July 5th 1958. Over the next 12 years they had 5 children: Elsie, Erich, Heidi, Angelika and Viktor. During this time Hans worked at a few different jobs. He worked at a blacksmith shop, then in a clay brick factory. He worked for a short while at the local power plant in Fernheim before becoming a truck driver.

In 1976, with the help from his brother Fritz, Hans had the opportunity to move his family to Canada, settling down in Abbotsford. Hans started work right away by working with his brother Fritz framing houses. Then he went to work at a cement factory then off to work at Brookside making chocolate chips. Eventually he was offered a job at Columbia Kitchen Cabinets where he worked for many years while at the same time he and Marichen were the custodians of Eben-Ezer Church for 6 years.

During those busy years of working, he always took time for his family. During the summer there were camping trips, fishing trips and eventually hunting trips. As the kids grew up there were weddings to plan and then the grandkids started coming. Oh how he loved spending time with his grandchildren! He had 16 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

In the late 80's they moved to Yarrow and then in 1999 they moved to Chilliwack. He eventually quit working at Columbia Kitchen Cabinets and for a few years worked at Old World Kitchens before retiring.

Retirement did not slow him down. He enjoyed working with wood and continued making items in his garage like stools, small folding tables, bird houses and mail boxes. Hans even became more domestic and helped Marichen with baking bread, buns and lots of cookies that the grandkids loved to eat. His latest hobby was covering metal coat hangers with fabric. He also enjoyed taking his wife to the river for nice long walks. Hans was an usher at Eben-Ezer Mennonite Church where he enjoyed greeting people on Sunday mornings.

On April 22, his daughter Heidi and her husband Henry came from Bolivia for a month long visit, but sadly, only a few days after they arrived, Hans became very weak and the ambulance was called. He spent the last few weeks at the Chilliwack General Hospital. As his healthy quickly deteriorated, we realized that God was soon going to call him home. On May 19th, we all strongly felt we needed to stay close to him. As the afternoon wore on, his breathing grew softer, slower and quieter. At about 5:40 he took his last breath and we knew that he had been called to his heavenly home.

He lived the life of a simple man ... working hard, taking care of his family and enjoying the little things in life. He will be greatly missed by all his family and his friends!

