



**REMEMBERING**  
**Lawrence Swanson**

April 11, 1926 - October 8, 2014



Lawrence was a loving and devoted husband to Helen; beloved brother to Doris Nissen of Qualicum Beach; proud and supportive father to Linda (John) Webber of Kamloops, Bevan (Bonnie Franklin) Swanson of Abbotsford, Richard Swanson of 108 Mile House and Lori Steiner (Dan) of Sechelt; grandfather to Brett (Kaoru) Webber, Bonnie (Martin) Scherrer, Chad Swanson, Ryan (Aubrey Walsh) Swanson and Drew (Angie) Swanson; and the "twinkles in his eye", his great grandchildren Jayde, Samuel, Elise, Masaya, Mason, Austin and Haruki; as well as other family members and friends. Dad was predeceased by his mother and father William and Emma Swanson, 9 brothers, 1 sister and daughter-in-law Margaret Swanson.

Dad was born the 10th child in a family of 12 children on the family farm in Ridgedale, BC, a quiet rural corner of Matsqui. He first spied our mother Helen Bontron at the old Matsqui Station and was smitten for the remainder of his life. After their marriage in 1946, they worked the family farm with his brother Len. The naming of Swanson Road (Street) in Ridgedale was an enormous sense of pride for Dad. In 1964 when their youngest child Lori was a year old, they sold the farm and moved to a house on York Avenue in Abbotsford. They lived in this home for 47 years. Lawrence was first a dairy farmer and secondly a carpenter by trade. He was employed by Croisdale Construction and by Matsqui and Abbotsford School District. He built houses, barns, bowling alleys, theaters etc. His hands laboured on many projects in the Matsqui and Abbotsford areas. While in the hospital during the past 5 weeks a care giver recognized him as the man that saved their roof from collapsing during a major snow storm on Sumas Prairie many years before. This acknowledgment deeply touched him. Later he became a Field Supervisor at Snowcrest Frozen Foods working alongside his brothers John, Len, Walt and Bill. Dad served as a member of the I. O. O. F. Lodge for 50 years (including 1 year as

Grand Master of BC) in Mission and Chilliwack. Dad truly enjoyed the fellowship of his lodge. Our father was a kind and gentle man and always said it was his children were what he cared about the most. His devotion to keeping Mom at home after her dementia took hold and consistent visits to her care home demonstrated a selfless act of love. There will be no service per Dad's request.

In lieu of flowers donations are gratefully accepted to BC Children's Hospital.

