



**BERTRAM,
Beverley Martin**

Beverley Bertram (B.A., B.Ed., M.A.) passed away on April 26, 2016, surrounded by family, at the Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon, one week short of his 80th birthday.

The eldest of three brothers, Bev was born to William and Catherine (nee Martin) Bertram in Eston, Sask. on May 4th, 1936, where he grew up supporting the family

farm. He was naturally drawn towards books from an early age, and after attending a one-room schoolhouse near Eston, and high school in Kindersley, he found his way to Teachers' College in Saskatoon. Times being what they were, "Mr. B" was standing in front of his first classroom at the age of 19, in a small country school south of White Bear. He spoke often of that year, and of the blizzard of '55 that storm-stayed him and his 70-odd students in the school. He went on to spend two years teaching in Tompkins before enrolling at the College of Education at the University of Saskatchewan in 1958. That year he also joined the Army - his childhood dreams of being a pilot quashed by his imperfect eyesight - and shipped off to CFB Borden for his first summer of basic training. In the fall of 1959, he was offered a position teaching English at Winston High School in Watrous, where he remained (but for two more tours at the U of S) until his retirement from teaching in 1993. Bev spoke regularly of his deep love for teaching, and though at different times he served as principal and vice-principal at WHS, his heart was always in the classroom, where he took a passionate interest and pride in developing the writing capabilities of his students. He was active in the school and community through much of his life, particularly through the local Air Cadets Squadron, various drama programs, and the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation. In his later years, Bev enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and touring local back roads, enjoying scenery and wildlife with his wife Bonnie.

Bev is remembered as a person of dedication, integrity, and generosity. His unique sense of humour, with a playful remark always at the ready, was with him into his final hours, though his final years brought increasing discomfort, owing to the effects of a childhood victory over polio, a near-death encounter with an aorta aneurysm in 2005, and the bodily deterioration that comes with enjoying life's pleasures.

In 1961, Bev was married to Iris (nee Gill) of Renown. They had two children: Clifton (b. 1962) and Deneen (b. 1964) - before cancer took Iris at age 35. In 1977, Bev was married to Bonnie (nee Beveridge), originally from Maple Creek, and they had two children: Brian (b. 1978) and Brandon (b. 1983).

B.M.B. is survived by his wife Bonnie, his four children and six grandchildren: Clifton and his daughter Eleanor (b. 2004); Deneen Weik (Rod) and her sons Kane (b. 1994) and Kole (b. 1997); Brian (Courtney) and his daughter Paisley (b. 2009) and sons Blaze (b. 2011) and Roen (b. 2015); and Brandon and by his brothers Bill (Elizabeth) and Murray (Beryl), and by dozens and dozens of nieces, nephews, and other extended family members.

A celebration of Bev's life was held at Danceland (Manitou Beach) on May 7.

Interment will take place at a later date.

For those so wishing, donations may be made to an English scholarship in his memory.

To leave online condolences, tributes or to make a donation, please visit www.fotheringham-mcdougall.com


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