



**ERNST,  
Merle LLewellyn**

Merle Ernst, aged 84 years, passed away at Watrous District Health Complex on Tuesday, October 13, 2015.

Merle was born April 1, 1931 to Lorne and Dolly Ernst on the family home quarter south of Plunkett. He was the second of three children, brother to Melvin and Lorraine. He attended

Eltham School until Gr. 8 and boarded in Plunkett to attend high school. He enjoyed playing hockey and played trumpet in the Guernsey band. In 1962 he married the love of his life, Iris Hale and they took over the family farm south of Plunkett where they raised two children, Dale and Cindy. Merle was very active in the community by being a 4-H leader, Sask Wheat Pool committee member, NFU member, hockey coach, Viscount Agricultural Municipal committee and spearheaded the installation of natural gas in the south Plunkett area. Merle's favourite time of year was the fishing season, both winter and summer. For approximately 40 years his fishing trip to Deschambault Lake with his fishing buddies was the highlight, but also enjoyed camping and fishing with family and friends. He especially enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren.

Merle is survived by his loving wife of almost 53 years, Iris, son Dale (Janice) Ernst and daughter Cindy (Lee) Hawkes, grandchildren Meagan and Jenna Ernst, James, Logan and Colton Hawkes and sister Lorraine Scott.

He was predeceased by his parents Lorne and Dolly and brother Melvin, two brothers-in-law, a sister-in-law, and mother and father-in-law.

Memorial service was held at Watrous Civic Centre on October 18 conducted by Rev. Karl (Jung-Hyun) Shin.

Honourary pallbearers were all those who knew him. Meagan Ernst, Jenna Ernst, James Hawkes, Logan Hawkes and Colton Hawkes were urnbearers. Register attendants were Roger and Isabelle Langston and Frieda McWillie. Inger Olah was the memorial table attendant. Ushers were Norman McWillie, Wes Frey and Jerry Olah. Dale Ernst, Cindy Hawkes and James Hawkes gave the eulogy. Reader was Meagan Ernst. Elva Turner was the pianist.

Interment followed at Watrous Cemetery.

Memorial donations directed to Watrous Community Health Foundation would be appreciated.

To leave online condolences, tributes or to make a donation, please visit [www.fotheringham-mcdougall.com](http://www.fotheringham-mcdougall.com)

  
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