



**KOCZKA,
George Stephen**

George Koczka, aged 90 years, passed away peacefully at Watrous District Health Complex on Monday June 5, 2017.

On June 17, 1926 George Stephen Koczka was born to Matilda (nee Balogh) and Mike Koczka Senior in the Plunkett area. He grew up on the family farm and attended school at the Farina country school several

miles from the Koczka farm. He helped on the farm while attending school. In his early 20s he moved to Toronto to work for Massey Ferguson, where he worked until his retirement in 1979. In Toronto, George met his bride-to-be, Marion. They married in 1950. Together they built a life and had two children Dennis in 1951 and Karen in 1955. George and Marion enjoyed a wide range of activities including, music, dancing, playing cards, fishing, watching sports, garage sales, restoring and repurposing old items and spending time with family and friends. They would work hard from September to June and would spend summers at the Koczka family farm. In 1979 after retiring, George and Marion and Karen moved to Watrous. They enjoyed retirement and being close to family. George was always helping others in the community; he would often drive elderly people to their medical appointments in Saskatoon and do errands for them. For many years George and Marion spent the winter in Mesa, Ariz. A few years after Marion's passing, George found a companion in a long-time friend, Irene Cain. They proved to be great partners and enjoyed each other's company and dancing, music, card playing, watching sports and participating in family events. Irene passed in 2015. George continued to live on his own until his passing. He will be sadly missed by all those who knew him.

He will be lovingly remembered by his family: children, Dennis (Gail Upton), Karen (Teddy Kiss deceased); his grandchildren Kody Koczka, Darlene Kiss, Amanda Booth (Shane) and great-grandchildren Kayleigh Kiss, Sierra Booth and Mickayla Booth; his brother Robert Koczka (Jean McLean); his sister-in-law Mary (John Koczka deceased); the children and family of his later life partner Irene Cain (deceased) and numerous nieces and nephews.

George was predeceased by Marion (nee Mitchell), his wife of 52 years, in 2002; and his later life partner Irene Cain, in 2015. He was predeceased by his mother Matilda (Balogh); father Mike Sr.; brothers John and Mike; and sisters Annie Zoney, Rose Robbestad, and Tillie Schaan; son-in-law Teddy Kiss and a great-grandson Grayson Kiss.

A visitation for family and friends was held at Fotheringham's Funeral Chapel June 8.

Funeral service was held at Watrous United Church on June 9 conducted by Rev. Karl Shin.

Pallbearers were Mike Schaan, Earl Harms, Kevin Koczka, Chad Koczka-Harms, Fred Schaan and Steven Schaan. Wanita Koczka and Winnifred Tarko were register attendants. Ushers were David Schaan and Cheryl Schaan. Br. Basil Schaan gave the eulogy. Organist was

Shelley Engele.

Interment followed at Watrous Cemetery.

Memorial donations directed to Canadian Cancer Society or Watrous Hospital Palliative Care Unit would be appreciated.

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

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