



Michael "Mike" Perchaluk

Mike was born in his family home on the farm in Sclater, Manitoba, Sunday, April 6, 1924 the fifth of seven children of his parents Nicholas and Mary Perchaluk. He grew up on the family farm in Sclater, Manitoba, went to a one room school until grade eight and then went to high school in the neighbouring village of Pine River ten miles away. Mike walked to Pine River on Sunday evenings and stayed with family relations/friends until Friday when he would walk back to Sclater for the weekend.

When World War II broke out and Mike finished high school, he went to work at the HBM&S mine at Flin Flon, Manitoba. After a few years he returned to help his father on the farm at Sclater. Mike obtained a teaching certificate and went to work as a teacher in Cowan, Manitoba in 1943. While residing in Cowan, Mike met the love of his life, Mary Wowchuk. Mike and Mary courted until their marriage on October 20, 1945.

Mike worked in the theatre business for several years, showing movies in communities like Cowan and Birch River. In 1948, Mike started a 41 year career with the CNR Railway. He learned Morse code and started as a telegrapher who dispatched train orders to railway and section crews along the railway. Mike and Mary, resided at many locations throughout Manitoba and Northern Ontario but their permanent residence was made in The Pas, Manitoba in 1956. He joined the Knights of Columbus in 1968. Mike worked as an operator, dispatching train orders until he retired from the CNR in 1989. Mike and Mary enjoyed a happy retirement with their family at their home in The Pas and cottage at Rocky Lake. Both he and Mary enjoyed gardening and creating a "Butchart Garden" in their backyard.

From an early age Mike enjoyed the outdoors and became a great provider for his family. The Pas was a hunting and fishing paradise for Mike, so the family grew up on moose meat and fish. He enjoyed taking his children and grandchildren out hunting and fishing. Mike enjoyed learning and sharing his knowledge with everyone around him. He learned about bee-keeping started raising bees in The Pas. Mike built the family cottage at Rocky Lake.

After Mike passed away suddenly, but peacefully at his home in The Pas, Manitoba, Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at the age of 91 years. Mass of Christian burial was held Monday, April 27, 2015, 11:00 am, at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Cathedral, The Pas, Manitoba, with Rev. Paul Bringleston and Rev. Jack Herklotz presiding. Memories of the heart were shared James Perchaluk. Scripture readings were proclaimed by John Hendrickson and Sheri Mancini. Following interment prayers at Lakeside Cemetery, The Pas, a reception was held for family and friends at the Guy Hall. Pallbearers were Mike's grandchildren. Honorary pallbearers were Knights of Columbus – Charlebois Council.

Donations may be made to The Pas Health Complex Foundation, Inc., Memorial Fund, Palliative Care Division, Box 541, The Pas, Manitoba, R9A 1K4.