

James August Nordick



James August Nordick, "Jim", was born to John and Elizabeth (Esmie) Nordick Monday December 15, 1930 on the family farm in Englefeld, District Saskatchewan. The oldest son and second oldest child, Jim had 4 brothers and 4 sisters. After Grade 8 he quit to work on the family farm. At age 20 Jim pursued a mechanic school education in Edmonton Alberta. Upon graduation, Jim worked in Edmonton fixing used vehicles at a car dealership. When he saw a newspaper ad for a mechanic job in Arborfield Saskatchewan he decided to move there where he worked for approximately the next 3 years. During one of the community dances he met Louise Kapeller. He made sure to wash up quickly after work and get to the dance to socialize and see Louise. When Jim left Arborfield to work for Lesley McLean Construction out of The Pas, MB they courted by writing letters to

keep in touch. On January 8th, 1958 Jim and Louise were married in Arborfield. and moved to The Pas. Their first home was a one-room trailer with no running water.

In late February the construction company moved Jim and Louise north to Pit Siding where the Kelsey power dam was being built. Louise became the camp cook and Jim worked as a mechanic. Life was not easy those day - no electricity, running water, phone or doctor for miles. Snow banks were used as fridges and the only way in or out of camp was by train or bush plane. Their next move was to a camp in Thompson in the spring of 1959 where the mine and town were just being built. Once this contract finished they returned to The Pas. In 1962 Jim began as a shop mechanic for the Government of Manitoba Department of Highways, took a one month Heavy Duty Mechanic course in Brandon, then became the shop supervisor in 1962 and remained so until his retirement in 1988. Jim enjoyed 30 years of retirement.

Jim was a 55 year member of the Charlebois Council #2704 of the Knights of Columbus, joining on May 1, 1963, and volunteered many hours for the parish bingo and other activities.

Daughters Cindy Louise was born on June 8, 1961 and Lesa Marie on May 1, 1968. It was at this time that they decided to buy their house on Patrick Avenue. After moving to their new home. In addition to being attentive loving parents, Jim and Louise also became extended family to the many seniors in the neighbourhood. Homemade perogies, cabbage rolls, bread or other tasty treats were often given to our family for the kindness our parents showed towards others. This kindness earned Jim and Louise the Chamber of Commerce Neighbour of the Year award in 2009.

When Jim's only grandchild, Ava, was born to Tony and Lesa in September 2007, Jim loved being "Poppa" and would light up when he visited with Ava. In his earlier years Jim enjoyed hunting trips, working on farm equipment, ice skating and curling. He enjoyed gardening, fishing, picking berries and working around the yard. Woodworking was a winter hobby that let him make gifts for friends and family or to put on display in their yard and at the lake. After Louise became seriously ill, Jim became a caregiver to her until her death in 2016. Jim and Louise were married 58 years. He often talked about how much he missed her.

After a short period of continued health issues Jim passed away peacefully on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at St. Anthony's Hospital in The Pas, Manitoba at the age of 87 years. A service of remembrance to celebrate Jim's life was held Saturday, February 17, 2018, 1:00 pm, at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Cathedral, The Pas, Manitoba with Father Vijay Deivanayagam presiding. A Guard of Honour from Charlebois Council attended. Music ministry was provided by Rochelle Rydberg and Andrew Legeny. Scripture readings were proclaimed by Vaughn Wadeliuss, James Hemauer and Susan Ford. "Memories of the Heart" were shared by James Hemauer and Lesa Nordick. Interment is at St. Lucy's Catholic Cemetery, Arborfield, SK.