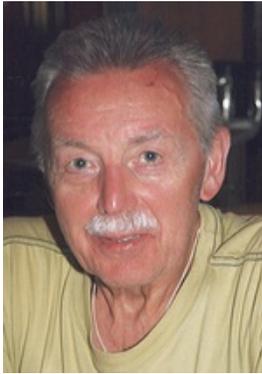


Pavel (Paul) Civka (1944-2013)



Paul was born on January 4, 1944 in Smecno, Czechoslovakia. He grew up loving music and sports, passions which continued throughout his life. After training as a millwright, Paul served two years in the Czechoslovakia army. Returning from the army in 1966, he met his wife Jirina (Georgina) Bizovska. When their country was occupied by the Warsaw Pact armies, they were married in 1968 and escaped the country in search of better lives.

In December, 1969 they arrived in Canada to start their lives free of oppression, living first in Thompson MB, and relocating a few years to The Pas, MB where Paul worked at the pulp and paper mill. Together they had four daughters, and opened their home to two foster children for twelve years. As a family man, Paul chose to spend his free time with his family, enjoyed making people laugh, and often played pranks on others. He loved languages, speaking English, Czech, Russian, and a bit of French, German and Spanish.

He proudly completed Grade 12 in 2005, an opportunity he did not have in Czechoslovakia. With his wife he enjoyed many travels, the outdoors, sharing stories, hiking, canoeing and photography. He was passionate about international hockey, volunteering in 2008 at the World Junior Hockey Challenge in Camrose, AB. He played guitar, clarinet, organ and harmonica, and participated in community choirs in The Pas and Flin Flon.

Paul passed away peacefully after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease, surrounded by his family at St. Paul's Personal Care Home on November 16, 2013. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Georgina; his sister Mirka Robkova, daughters Teresa (Mike), Marcela (Bryan), Lucy (Jason), Julia (Patrick), and seven grandchildren.

His funeral service was held on November 21 in Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Cathedral, with Charlebois Council Knights of Columbus as an Honour Guard. Conducting the service were Rev. Jack Herklotz, Rev. Robert Laroche, and Archbishop Murray Chatlain.