

SMITH, Ronald Blair (Ron) [UNTD MALAHAT '53 U-69401] - (1935 - 2014) Age: 78~



SMITH, Ronald Blair 1935 - 2014 Passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, April 5th, 2014 surrounded by his family. He is survived by his childhood sweetheart and wife of 57 years, Jean: his two sons, Greg (Brenda) and Robin (Barbara) as well as a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Born in Balcarres, Saskatchewan, Ron moved to Victoria at an early age, and attended Esquimalt High School. He graduated from U.B.C. in 1957 with a degree in Electrical Engineering, and began his career at B.C. Electric (now B.C. Hydro) in Vancouver. His expertise in computers coupled with his wish to return to Victoria, led to his joining Large & Co. in 1964 and spearheading their expansion into computerized data processing. For fifty years, Earl Large has been Ron's business partner and best friend. Their company, Datatech Systems came into being in September 1963. They were pioneers in the age of computers. The business was sold in 1994, but Ron continued to work each day at the office until recently. A little real estate developing, golf at Uplands Golf Club, his beloved workshop, and frequent travelling have occupied his retirement years. Ron was a strong individual, with a fine, analytical mind; - not a social person - he did not suffer fools gladly. He was a rock solid friend to those who knew him, and he will be sadly missed. There will be no service, by request. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Victoria Hospice Society.