

STAMHUIS, Arend Jan [UNTD DISCOVERY '53 U-70090] (1928 - 2017) Age: 88



Arend's journey through life ended on January 16, 2017. To those closest to him, he was Jan. To many of his old friends and acquaintances, he was John. To the rest of the world, he was Arend. No matter which name he answered to, he enjoyed a wonderful life. He was born in Utrecht, the Netherlands, to Lambertus and Trijntje Stamhuis. As a boy, his twin passions were music and the sea. On completion of high school, he took training in seamanship and soon rose to the rank of First Mate in the Dutch Merchant Marine. He met his future wife Conny in 1948 and they married in 1952. They immediately immigrated to Canada to join the rest of his family, and settled in Vancouver. Arend obtained his Bachelor of Education degree at UBC, and later his Master of Arts in French language at SFU. While studying at UBC, he joined the Royal Canadian Navy Reserve and rose to the rank of Lieutenant, serving with the Navy Reserve for 10 years. He enjoyed a successful and rewarding 25-year high school teaching career in Coquitlam and later in North Vancouver. During that time, he continued to indulge his passion for sailing, and even lived on the schooner "Lorna D" with his family for 4 of those years. At the age of 55, Arend retired from teaching to an acreage in Aldergrove where he enjoyed making wine and working on his hobby farm. There, he resumed playing the violin that his father had made for him in his youth. He and Conny moved to the Okanagan in 1992 where he joined the Old Time Fiddlers and served a term as their president. Arend will be missed by his wife of 64 years, Conny, and his two children, Michael (Trish) and Jonie McGill (Ken). He was Opa to John (Josée), Beau (Amanda), Kyle, and Arend (Lauren), and great Opa to Arjen. He is also survived by numerous family members in BC, Alberta and the Netherlands. He and his family are especially thankful for the wonderful care he received at the Sunnyside Suites of the Lakeview Lodge Care Facility. A celebration of his life will be announced in the near future. If you wish to send a condolence, post photos or share a memory, please scroll down the page to the area called "Share Your Condolences."

His wife Conny and son Michael are well known in the Okanagan as award-winning swimmers, she in the age 80+ class and he in the age 60+ class.

Jan's UNTD Cadet experience was quite unique, entering the program as a married 25-year-old with significant maritime bona fides already in hand and having grown up in an enemy-occupied warzone.

Regards,

Jan had 3 UNTD summers; '54, '55, '56 and was promoted to A/SLT RCN(R), sen. 1 May '56, O-69412, attached to DISCOVERY.

He was promoted to LT RCN(R), sen. 1 May '58 at DISCOVERY.

Bill C