



In Memoriam

KENT, Michael Robert (1922 - 2014) Age: 93

UNTD CHIPPAWA 1947 U-39500

KENT, Michael R., LCdr. CD RCN (Ret'd) P.Eng.

Age 93 of Halifax, died October 19, 2014, in the Halifax Infirmary, QEII. Born in Broad Valley, Man., he was the youngest of four sons of the late Safrona (Tretiak) and Joseph Kostyniuk. He completed his high school education through correspondence courses from the Department of Education while working on the family farm. He joined the RCAF in 1942 and after completing the required technical courses was assigned to the Aircraft Repair and Maintenance Squadrons on many RCAF Aircrew training stations operated by the Commonwealth Air Training Program. After the war he studied at the University of Manitoba under the DVA program and graduated in 1950 with a BSc in Mechanical Engineering. He then decided to make the Navy his career. Upon graduation he was accepted in the Royal Canadian Navy and underwent a marine engineering specialization course with the Royal Navy at Manadon/Keyham, England. During his Naval career he served in HMC Dockyard Ships Repairs in Halifax and Esquimalt, B.C., several ships and training establishments, Naval Headquarters in Ottawa, as well as the engineering officer of Destroyers HMCS Crusader and HMCS St Laurent. Upon retirement in 1965, he was hired on the teaching staff of the Nova Scotia Institute of Technology to teach technical courses in the Mechanical Technology Program. Four years later he transferred to the Adult Vocational Education to develop courses for Manpower Training in Industry Programs, and to supervise the development of Literacy Program for Adults who had been out of school for many years and did not have the necessary math and communication skills to qualify for occupational training. In order to understand the literacy problems that these adults had, and to direct the development of a suitable upgrading programs for them, he enrolled in part-time evening studies at the Faculty of Education at St Mary's University and graduated with a BEd (cum laude) in 1968, and M.A. Adult Education in 1972. His graduation thesis (as required for the Master's Degree) was: "Experimental Research in Reading and Comprehension Skills of Sub-literate Adult Students" (December, 1971). He retired from the Provincial Civil Service in 1985 as Assiatant Director Program Services. One of the many hobbies and interest he had was music, therefore, shortly after his retirement he was invited to join a group of seniors who were developing a radio/TV program to be aired on channel 10 cable for seniors to replace the type of music they enjoyed that was offered by the radio station CFDR in Dartmouth before it closed. The program was to be called NWBC (Northwood Broadcasting Club). Using his home computer, he developed the first "print-out" roll-by schedule on the TV screen of the daily programs that many seniors' clubs had for their members around the Halifax/Dartmouth and local areas. As a volunteer broadcaster he became the program host for his own program which he called "Top Tunes of Past Decades". He broadcasted for two hours every friday morning on Eastlink Cable channel 10 for over 14 years. His program was enjoyed by all seniors as it brought back fond memories of the music they listened to, and danced to when they were young - music that was no longer available on local radio stations. He was a member of the Kiwanis Golden K, Knights of Columbus, Institute of Marine Engineers as well as the Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia. He was predeceased by his wife, the former Irene Edwards, and his three older brothers. He is survived by his daughter, Beatrice Ann; nephews and their families in Thunder Bay, Ont., and Gimli, Man., as well as many cousins in Winnipeg, Man. Cremation has taken place under the care of Atlantic Funeral Home, 6552 Bayers Rd., Halifax. There will be no visitation by request. Funeral Mass will be celebrated 10 a.m., Saturday, October 25, in Blessed Mother Teresa Parish, (corner of Normandy Drive and Robbie Street, Halifax). Interment will take place in Oakridge Memorial Gardens, Middle Sackville. Donations in memory may be made to a charity of choice.