



**REMEMBERING**  
**Emmanuel Vitus Leon**  
June 15, 1931 - September 5, 2019



Leon, Emmanuel Vitus

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Emmanuel (Manny/Emil) Vitus Leon passed away peacefully at the age of 88 on September 5, 2019. His great courage, along with his loving and supportive family, and a dedicated caregiving team, enabled Emmanuel to realize his wish to remain at home with his beloved wife. He is survived by his devoted wife of 62 years, Andrée (nee Gill); his four children Luiz (Patti), Robert (Doris), Cynthia and Susan (Grant) and his cherished grandchildren (Nadia, Justin and Tia).

Emmanuel was born on June 15, 1931 in Hong Kong to Luiz Francisco Leon and Enid Leon (nee Van Langenberg). In 1949 he immigrated to Canada fully embracing life here, quickly becoming a proud and industrious Canadian. He received his Master's of Engineering from McGill University on May 31st 1961, and he practiced structural engineering for more than 30 years with his own professional engineering consulting company in Montreal, Quebec.

Emmanuel retired from Engineering in 1994 and spent time with Andrée at their country home that the family built together in Sutton, Quebec, before moving to Maple Bay on Vancouver Island, BC, to be closer to their children and grandchildren.

Our father's life was well-lived and always filled with interesting conversations around current affairs, art, politics, his grandchildren and his love for animals. He was very passionate about sailing and travelling with Andrée. He combined his love of family, engineering, photography, gardening and building skills to create an extraordinary home for his family. He dedicated himself to his wife and to his family

providing wise advice and help as each of his children made their way through life. Lifelong learning was something Emmanuel lived by and he remained curious and inquisitive of many skills, different cultures, and world events. He was always happy to share his knowledge with others and loved to work on small projects in the garage or sketch scientific principles on a napkin at dinner with his grandchildren. Emmanuel passed on so many joys of life, such as his love of the ocean, a passion for science, engineering, and photography as well as respect and curiosity for world culture. He was known for his quick wit, his infectious smile and his kind and compassionate spirit. People who knew Emmanuel described him as a true gentleman.

It is a true blessing to have shared in the life of such an amazing man and an honour to continue in his legacy.

Friends and family are invited to attend a funeral service on October 5, 2019 at 11:00 AM at St. Francis Xavier Church, 790 Kilmalu Road, Mill Bay, BC.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Emmanuel Leon's memory may be made to McGill University Faculty of Engineering. [www.alumni.mcgill.ca/give](http://www.alumni.mcgill.ca/give)

