REMEMBERING

Gerald Gerry Odegaard

June 26, 1937 - November 28, 2010

Odegaard, Gerald Allan passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his loving family on November 28, 2010. Gerry fought a courageous 8 month battle with Soft Tissue Sarcoma Cancer and never was a complaint heard. He often said "We do the best we can!" Born on June 26, 1937 at Nurse Lidstrom's home in Canwood, Saskatchewan. Predeceased by his parents Ervin and Emma Odegaard, he is lovingly remembered by his wife Mary nee (Thiessen) of 54 years, daughter's Leanne Page (Rick Harrison), Lana (Dave) Cech, Keli (Kelly) Sinclair, Kim (John) Hoffmann, 9 grandchildren Erik, Natasha, heather, Krista, Melissa, Kirsten, Tyler, Brandon and Megan, 4 great grandsons, brother Lance (Sharon) Odegaard and Lance's children Brad (Susy) Odegaard, Carmen (Keith) Hall, numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives, and his special four legged companion "Buddy".

As a boy, Gerry worked at his parent's store, Nestledown General and moved to British Columbia in 1956 where he worked for Hudson's Hardware and Safeway as Produce Manager. In 1966 Gerald moved to Shawnigan Lake where he and Mary bought and operated Aitken and Fraser General Store, AKA Gerry's from June 1966 to January 2000. A family business employed all 4 daughters at one time and a son-in-law, Dave. Gerry always said the store couldn't have run without all the wonderful staff that worked with him over the years and always made time to enjoy a visit with the customers. The store even made it to the big screen in a scene from the movie "Lake Placid". Mary and Gerry sold the store and retired in 2000 although one of his daughters Lana, continues working there. Together they enjoyed many winters at their favourite hot spot, Waikiki. Gerry volunteered with the Shawnigan Lake Fire Hall for 13 years and also enjoyed playing hockey (guess he's always been a fighter since he seemed to spend a lot of time in the penalty box), baseball, curling, gardening and gazing out over the lake. Gerry also looked forward to his luncheon visits with little brother Lance.

Many thanks to Vancouver General Hospital nurses for their special care, the Cancer Clinic radiation staff, Cowichan District Hospital, Mike Wright from BC Ambulance, The Oswego Hotel's caring staff and many of our extended family and friends! Thanks to Harold Wallace for all of his guidance through this difficult time.

In lieu of flowers donations can be designated to "Soft Tissue Sarcoma Cancer" Canadian Cancer Society 565 West 10th Ave. Vancouver, BC V5Z 4J4. A celebration of life will be held at Shawnigan Lake Community Center 2804 Shawnigan Lake Road Shawnigan Lake, BC on Friday December 10, 2010 at1:00 p.m. Please bring your stories to share - spoken or written!