



**KORNELSEN,
Jacob (Jake)
Nov. 2, 1922 -
Mar. 28, 2015**

Jake Kornelsen, aged 92 years, passed away at Watrous District Health Complex on Saturday, March 28, 2015.

Jacob, known to all as Jake, was born November 2, 1922, at Alexanderthal, Ukraine to Johann and Katherina (Janzen)

Kornelsen. Jake was seven years old when the family emigrated from Russia to Saskatchewan, Canada settling in the Watrous area. He attended Plymouth School, a daily walk of 2 1/2 miles to the school and back again with his sister Helen. In 1939 Canada declared war against Germany. In the early years of this war, Jake worked for some time in Trail, B.C. By 1942, he began to serve as a Conscientious Objector (CO) in New Westminster, Port Alberni (Vancouver Island), Campbell River, Weyburn and Regina, Sask. With the end of World War II in 1945, Jake returned to his home in Watrous to help his parents on the farm. He also began to work for Acme Services in Watrous. It was in Watrous that Jake met his wife Gertrude Klassen who was also born in Alexanderthal, Ukraine but had emigrated to Canada in 1948. They were married October 23, 1949 and were blessed with four children: Herb, Garry, Victor (who died in infancy) and Lillian. As a young man, Jake was baptized upon confession of his faith at the Bethany Mennonite Church, Watrous where he was an active member. When the church closed, he began to attend the Drake North Star Mennonite Church where he was a member until his passing. In January 1950, Joe Jewell, owner of Acme Services, invited Jake to purchase a half share of the business. Jake worked at Acme as owner/manager for 43 years until his retirement in 1993. Twenty-five of those years, he was a dealer for Chrysler; a company whose big cars he dearly loved and still drove. He was on the board of CAA for many years. Even "retired", Jake could be found daily at Acme, stopping by for coffee and answering phones if needed. He went on his last tow job in October 2014 to unlock a vehicle in Nokomis. Fishing and camping were two of Jake's pleasures, especially together with family. Jake and Gertrude both enjoyed a lot of travelling in Canada and the United States, as well as overseas, among them India, Germany, Brazil, Paraguay, Cuba and Mexico. Though 70 years of age when he retired, Jake took on new ventures of cooking, gardening, volunteering at the MCC Thrift Store and golfing. He and his good friend Lyle Shantz spent many hours on the local golf course. Jake was blessed with a long and active life. In the beginning of March he began to have varied health issues that led to his passing away on Saturday, March 28, 2015.

Jake is survived by son Herb (Ruth) Kornelsen and their children Ben (Cherie) Kornelsen, Jocelyn (Dustin) Curtis, Angela (Ryan) Bushman; son Garry (Carolynne) Kornelsen and their sons Kris (Kristie) Kornelsen and Greg (Angela) Kornelsen; daughter Lillian (Allen) Patkau and their daughters Jenn (Jon) Hromek, Kate (Lester) Pryce and Lesley and 16 great grandchildren. He is also survived by one sister Anne Boehr and five sisters-in-law Lena Kornelsen, Leila Kornelsen, Katie Sawatzky,

Maria (Isaac) Driediger and Agnes (Rudolf) Friesen.

He was predeceased by his wife Gertrude, infant son Victor, parents Johann and Katherina Kornelsen, six brothers and five sisters.

A public visitation and viewing for family and friends was held at Fotheringham's Chapel Apr. 3.

Funeral service was held at North Star Mennonite Church, Drake, Sask. on Apr. 4 conducted by Rev. Emily Toews and Pastor Darren Holland.

Pallbearers were grandchildren Kris Kornelsen, Greg Kornelsen, Ben Kornelsen, Jocelyn Curtis, Angela Bushman, Jennifer Hromek, Kate Pryce and Lesley Patkau. Isaac Pankratz and Dan Boehr were ushers. Memorial table attendants were Esther Laskowski and Lynda Wolfe. Garry Kornelsen gave the obituary. Tribute was given by Jake's grandchildren. Kris Kornelsen provided special music with accompaniment by Ruth Kornelsen and sound by Steven Lehr.

Interment held at Bethany Mennonite Cemetery preceded the service.

Memorial donations directed to MCC Gift and Thrift Store Building Fund would be appreciated.

To leave online condolences, tributes or to make a donation, please visit www.fotheringham-mcdougall.com

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