

SIDAWAY, Raymond Edward (Ray) – VHS 1952

1934 – 2013

With Andrea holding his hand, Ray passed away peacefully in Victoria General Hospital in the early hours of Sunday November 24, 2013, after a lengthy battle with heart disease and osteoarthritis. A gentle giant, Ray was an honest, generous, kind and compassionate person. Ray was born in Regina, Saskatchewan, on February 27, 1934, the beloved only son of Elul (Sid) and Mary (Marie) Sidaway. The family moved to Victoria, BC, after having visited here when Sid was required to take his annual Spring training with the Royal Canadian Navy Volunteer Reserve. Ray began school at Spring Ridge Elementary in Victoria, following which the family was posted to Halifax with the Royal Canadian Navy when War broke out. They returned to Victoria after the War and Ray continued his schooling at Central Junior and Victoria High Schools. After graduation he was employed at Victoria Press as a junior sports writer, covering school sports. He later went on to work in Sales at Lovicks, McGavins, Crystal Springs, and Scott Bathgate for several years, and then returned to the Press in Advertising for many years, after which health problems arose in 1986 which prevented him from continuing. Ray enjoyed sports and participated in many at school, including cross-country, basketball, and baseball. He played on the hockey team from the Press - after the Victoria Cougars finished their league game. The Press fellows wore the old uniforms from the Cougars: Ray's was Joe Medynski's No. 19. Ray was a keen angler and loved fishing in Brentwood and Cowichan Bay. He was a past director of the Victoria-Saanich Inlet Angler's Association and a past volunteer with the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary. Ray is predeceased by his dear parents. He is survived by his best friend and long-time fiancée, Andrea Fulton, and several cousins across the country.