

RITSON, Donald (Don) Frederic Passed away at the Royal Jubilee Hospital on March 14, 2017 at age 89. He is survived by his beloved wife of 67 years, Marion. Predeceased by his father and mother, Fred and Jane Ritson and also by his older brothers Jack and Alex. He was a proud father of his sons Brent (Christine) in Victoria and Dean, grandfather to Desiree (Michael), Daniel and Alexis, great-grandfather to Mathew, Marley and Marshall, all in Cranbrook. Don was born 1927 in Edmonton, spent his childhood in Pioneer Mine and graduated from Victoria High School in 1945. He was employed by BC Forest Service for 37 years and retired in 1985. Don was a member of the Victoria Junior Chamber of Commerce. After he aged out of the JCs he became a senator in the international organization. Don and his family enjoyed their annual vacation at Sproat Lake, where lifetime friends were made. He showed throughout his life an interest in numerous sports both by following and participating: played hockey from early childhood into his late 50's, coached minor hockey, pulled strongly for Montreal Canadiens, played badminton, tennis, curled and waterskied. He was for many years a playing member at Royal Colwood Golf Course. He fished for salmon, halibut and trout. Don's garden produced roses, vegetables and masses of tomatoes. After retirement he cruised with Marion to Alaska, Mexico and the Panama Canal, toured Canada, Europe, British Isles, Mexico and USA and enjoyed annual trips to Waikiki. Don will be thought of by the many whose lives he touched. A celebration of his life will take place at a later time.

Published in Victoria Times Colonist from Mar. 24 to Mar. 25, 2017