



**MACDONELL (LCOL) CD, Alexander
Leslie Duff (1941)**

November 12, 1924 - April 14, 2022

Forever Young Duff peacefully shed his 97 year old "earth suit" at his home Glengarry II flanked by his loving daughters Lesley and Alex. Duff grew up riding the range as a "Ranch Brat" on their family ranch The BX in Vernon until the outbreak of WWII. His Dad Leslie/Les, RFC Flier in WWI was now

'Boots on the Ground' at war overseas. Duff returned to Victoria with his Mum Eleanor where he joined the Canadian Scottish Regiment (Militia) as a boy soldier in 1939 and transferred to the Canadian Army Active Force in 1943, serving with the Royal Canadian Artillery as a field gunner and the Canadian Infantry Corps as Infantry Lieutenant, where he gained his commission in 1945. At the end of WWII he returned to the University of BC to complete his BAsC in Mechanical Engineering in 1948. He then resumed his service career where he rejoined the army with the Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers in which he held appointments in six provinces, Korea, Cyprus, northwest Europe, USA where he obtained an MS degree in Logistics Management at Wright Patterson US Air Force Institute of Technology and on exchange with the British Army REME in the UK. At the time of his CF retirement in 1974, he was the Base Commander at CFB London. Duff's second career was as Director of Cheque Redemption Control for the Department of Federal Supply and Services in Ottawa until his department was relocated to Matane, Que. His third career was with UBC as Director of Continuing Education in Engineering and Architecture until retiring in 1991 as Director Emeritus. Returning to Victoria, he then served 3 terms on the Esquimalt Advisory Planning Commission. As a world traveller throughout Duff's amazing and adventurous life, he wore many hats, all with dignity and distinction acquiring umpteen special names... Mud to his fellow horse racers, Mr.

Duff, D'Uncle, Adam12 and Mac the Knife to the guys on base, skipper to his 3 boats, Captain to his 2 planes and Bumpa to his granddaughter Jessy. He was always there to extend a helping hand, kind, loving, loyal, funny, animal whisperer, prankster, generous in mind and spirit and a compassionate wonderful father to all. A true Highland gentleman. Predeceased by his devoted parents Leslie and Eleanor Macdonell, daughter Margaret Anne and grandson Duncan. Duff is lovingly remembered by daughters Lesley and Alex (Derek), granddaughter Jessy and numerous other family, Sandy, KVA and RCEME brothers, RVYC, Pro Patria 292, friends and neighbours. You are loved. After logging over 1,000 round trips in "Hot Cat", his Grumman Cheetah from Victoria to Vancouver alone, we hear Duff to tower "This is Uniform Hotel Delta holding short at runway two seven, ready for takeoff". "Uniform Hotel Delta, Wind is Two Seven Zero at Ten, you're cleared for takeoff Duff. Blue skies and tailwinds". As our beloved Duff would always say: "Keep calm and carry on. Regardless ..."

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