



Conrad Edgar Stewart

November 9, 2023

June 1, 1927 – November 9, 2023

It is with great sadness that we announce that Conrad passed away peacefully at Toronto Western Hospital on November 9th after a brief illness. He was born in Cochrane, Ontario, the seventh son, one of 14 children born to John L. Stewart and Eleanor (née Payette) and is predeceased by his first wife of 44 years, Irene (née Groulx), second wife Audrey (née Penny), and 13 siblings and their spouses. He will be sorely missed by his two sons, Dr. Darryl Stewart (Kathy), and Blake Stewart (Trish) and four grandchildren, Bradley Stewart, Alisha Nord-Stewart (Andy), Jacqueline Stewart and Brianne Nord-Stewart. Conrad was always immensely proud of his humble roots and documented many of his life experiences in a self-published memoir. His siblings often called him “lucky Con” as they witnessed his good fortune through numerous adventures. During World War II, Conrad wanted to follow in the footsteps of his 6 older brothers already in uniform by 1943. While still only 15, Conrad enlisted once in the Navy as an Ordinary Seaman and then again in the Air Force as a Sergeant Air Gunner. To his disappointment, both times, his family eventually reported his underage status, the second time after the death of his older brother Reginald, who piloted a Lancaster bomber. Conrad briefly played professional hockey in Muncie, Indiana in the early fifties. He married his teenage sweetheart Irene and operated his own business in Detroit for a few years. Returning to Canada with his family in

1956, he resumed a teaching career spanning almost 30 years in Don Mills, Kapuskasing, Kirkland Lake, and Dunbarton, among other places. He completed his Bachelor of Arts degree over time through Laurentian University. Along the way, he obtained his pilot's licence and built his own two-seater amphibian Andersen Kingfisher. Conrad dabbled in politics when he ran as the provincial Liberal candidate in Scarborough Centre in 1967. To say that he was a "die-hard Liberal" is an understatement. When appointed to the Canadian War Veterans Allowance Board in 1978 he took great pride in helping to address the needs of less fortunate veterans and their families. Though always playing a competitive sport in his spare time, like hockey, bowling, or curling, Conrad also enjoyed cribbage, bridge (he played to win!), wood carving, and intarsia. While living in St. Albert, Alberta in the early nineties, Conrad interviewed survivors from World War II who belonged to the Northern Alberta Ex-Air Gunners Association, while he was their newsletter editor. He captured their harrowing tales in two self-published volumes. After sharing many adventures together that included moves from Scarborough to Kapuskasing, Ottawa, Charlottetown, Washago, and eventually St. Albert, Irene passed away from cancer in 1996. Conrad met and married Audrey in Edmonton, returning to Ontario in 2003. Conrad enjoyed his final five years living in Lindsay, Ontario, where his neighbours welcomed him immediately. He often remarked that his was the best generation, and the music of his time certainly reflected that romantic vision. We thank the caring staff at Toronto Western Hospital for their dedication and professionalism in recent days. Special thanks also go to the staff at the Grenadier Retirement Residence, whose genuine concern and attention made Con's brief stay there enjoyable and comfortable. A private family service will be held at Mount Hope Cemetery in Toronto. A Celebration of Life for Conrad will be announced later. In lieu of flowers, please donate to a charity of your choice (one of his favourites was the War Amps) in memory of Conrad.

Tribute Wall

TM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Tom Moore - November 29, 2023 at 08:32 AM

BS

“ Darryl and Blake accompanied Conrad to the 426 Squadron (his older brother Reg piloted a Lancaster bomber in this squadron in WWII) reunion at CFB Trenton in 2019



Blake Stewart - November 23, 2023 at 10:20 PM

CG

“ Conrad was our neighbour in Lindsay for 5 years and was one of the most interesting people I have ever known. He was easy to get to know and felt like family immediately. He had a wonderful sense of humour and liked to tease you to see how you would react. We spent many hours with Conrad and he was a great host who liked to serve us tea and cookies and wine (not usually together). He told us so many wonderful stories of his life which I will never forget. He always welcomed guests and wanted you to come in to visit even if you just dropped over for a minute. He was proud of and loved his family very much. He is someone who I will remember forever. My sincere condolences to his family for his loss.

Cathy Gillespie



Catherine Gillespie - November 19, 2023 at 10:20 AM

BS

Thanks so much for those heartfelt words Cathy. You already know how much Dad valued his friendship with you and Dale, his supportive “cousins” across the street!

Blake Stewart - November 23, 2023 at 10:02 PM

LC

“ I met Conrad when he lived in Rosedale Village. He had written his life story in the book, the Seventh Son, and was selling it and the birds he had crafted from wood. From there we started to play bridge together at the Senior Centre, and at our Friday afternoon bridge group here. Conrad was very close to his family and spoke with pride about his grandchildren. But he wanted to live by the water again and moved to Wasaga Beach. I visited him there, but we lost touch. I have fond memories of his time here. Rest in Peace Conrad. You lived a good life. Louise Carberry, Rosedale Village, Brampton

Louise Carberry - November 19, 2023 at 08:39 AM

BS

My Dad really enjoyed his time at Rosedale Village, Louise, especially playing bridge in your circle. He made the most of all the activities, including darts, shuffleboard and lawn bowling. As you may recall, he was very competitive!

Blake Stewart - November 23, 2023 at 10:09 PM