



REMEMBERING
Joseph Bourgeois

May 18, 1928 - November 4, 2011



Born in Crescent Valley May 18, 1928 to pioneers Henri and Hortense Bourgeois who moved from Quebec to Nelson in 1905.

They homesteaded in Crescent Valley in 1908, which at that time was called Bourgeois Siding on the CPR railroad. Over the next 25 years Henri built up his farm and dairy business. The barn is still standing today.

Joe's 7 older brothers and sisters took their turns hand milking 30 cows before and after school. At age 16 Joe delivered milk to homes in the South Slokan area. Milk cans were sent to CM&S (Cominco) in Trail by train. Many of Joe's friends learned to drive the milk truck.

In 1950 Joe began work for West Kootenay Power patrolling power lines, in 1954 he joined the line crew as truck driver/maintenance and construction crew. Upon retirement in 1988 he had a safety record of 38 years.

In 1955 he married Josephine Stonoski. They had 2 children Ron and Christine, living in South Slokan for 47 years. He was resourceful and liked to work with his hands repairing household items and cars. In 2002 they moved to Taghum where he continued to be always on call to help friends, neighbours' and community.

He is survived by his wife Josephine of 56 years, son Ron (Pam) grand daughters Nicole and Shay of Madison, Wisconsin, daughter Christine LePage (Doug) of Nelson, grandson Stuart (Nadine) of Kamloops and grand daughter Renee of Vancouver, brother in law John Stonoski (Hilda) of Abbotsford, brother in law Ed Stonoski (Bev) of Langley. Sister Mariette of Windsor Ontario. Predeceased by parents and siblings Cecile, Gaston, Yvette, Helen, Louis, and Maurice.

