

# William Tyrrel Salt

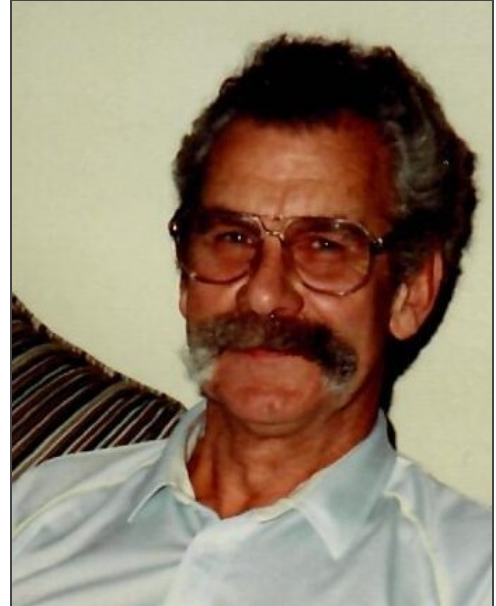
MAY 25, 2018

Bill Salt grew up an only child on a small farm outside of Victoria, BC and later, as a young man, spent several years working in Flin Flon, MB before moving to Calgary in the mid 1950s. It was during these years that he developed the broad spectrum of interests that enriched his life and the lives of those with whom he came in contact - joy and pleasure in community

service, language and reading, art and music, animals and gardening, and all things to do with the outdoors.

Victoria was also where he developed an intense love for soccer. Later, Calgary received the benefit of that love affair as Bill played a major role in the evolution of his favourite sport in Calgary. For over 30 years, he was a leader in the Calgary Minor Soccer Association (CMSA), involved heavily in administration and coaching. In 1972, he organized the zone system used by the CMSA today. He also served on the executive of the Calgary Soccer Federation and was a founding member of the Cal-Glen (now Calgary Glenmore FC) and Chinook Soccer Clubs. In the mid 1970s, Bill, Shawn Hyde, and Bob MacNichol recognized the need to provide the opportunity for girls to play soccer in Calgary. As a result, they introduced soccer for girls, which eventually grew into the girls' component of the CMSA and the Calgary Women's Soccer Association.

But Bill didn't stop with soccer. During the 1950s to the early 1980s, he was a driving force organizing and directing various projects in the North Glenmore community, and for 25 years held executive positions on the Community



Association Board.

In 1974, he became one of the three original organizers of Minor Sports Calgary and served as the first President from 1974 to 1976. Bill was also a member of the City of Calgary Parks and Recreation Board for five years and acted as Chairman for two of those years. In addition, he was very involved in minor hockey at both the community and “AA” levels.

Bill was recognized numerous times for his tremendous contributions, including among others: the Alberta Government Recreation Volunteer Recognition Award (1980), the Calgary Centennial Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Enrichment of Life in Calgary (1984), and the Calgary Booster Club Sportsman of the Year (1991).

As his children grew older, Bill turned his attention to diversifying his geophysical business. He was involved with the first joint venture between a Slovak and a Canadian company after the fall of the Iron Curtain, as well as many other international ventures.

Following retirement, Bill moved to an acreage east of the city (Cloudwalker Stables) where he devoted himself to Tennessee Walking horses, assorted rescue dogs, and large vegetable gardens.

But perhaps Bill’s greatest lifelong passion was jazz music. As a young man, Bill played in his own jazz ensemble and eventually built an impressive jazz record collection, one of the largest individual collections in North America, which he donated to the University of Calgary. He was also recognized as a jazz authority, and at various points in his life had been on a first name basis with the likes of Benny Goodman and Louis Armstrong. Bill and his good friend, Dr. Easton Wren, spent decades scouring used record stores, taking in jazz concerts across the continent, listening to jazz albums, and talking jazz. Several fortunate jazz fans

were on Bill's mailing list for the CDs he assembled - complete compilations by various jazz artists, accompanied by liner notes he composed himself.

Later in life, Bill began to write poetry, short stories, and novels, eventually publishing *As My Grandfather Used to Say...*, a collection of memories of a childhood spent on a small Vancouver Island farm during the Depression and World War II.

And so, on Friday, May 25 we lost more than a father, grandfather, husband, and friend; we lost a wise mentor, someone who believed in giving of himself to youth, community, and family, and in living life to the fullest.

Bill is survived by his wife (Deloris Salt), three children (Pat, Gord, and Leanne Salt), and three grandchildren (Matthew and Megan Salt, and Maya Simon) as well as two stepchildren (Angela Hobbins of Reno and Christopher K. Hobbins of Mississippi) and three step-grandchildren (Michael Marchase, Joey Duffy, and Gabriel DePeau).

If friends so desire, please make a donation to an animal rescue society, your local community association, or one of your community's youth-focussed sports organizations. As per Bill's wishes, there will be no public memorial service.

## Messages of Condolence

I am sad to hear of Bill's passing. Bill was a strong force in the Tennessee Walking Horse Community in Canada. His support of the Alberta Walking Horse Association and the Canadian Futurity was invaluable to the growth of both. I was fortunate to be a friend of Bill and Deloris and spent many comfortable hours at Cloudwalker Stable talking horses and life. I never met anyone who appreciated feeding horses as much as Bill. My condolences to Deloris and his family.

— **Dianne Little**

My husband, Andrew Bear Robe, and myself spent many happy days at Cloedwalker Stables with our horses Grace and Shanghai, Sara, and Sundance. I always knew Bill was looking after them with love as he loved all animals (although at times he overfed but that was love).

Bill was a great story teller and we loved listening to him spin a yarn. I loved his book that I bought many for all my friends.

Bill, while leaning on the fence rail always imparted some sage wisdom or quote that remained with us.

Our favourite was “there is a lot of miles between the talking and the doing”.

I feel honoured to have known such a kind hearted man and I am glad I read his stories from his book.

Rest In Peace Bill as you head on in your journey.

Condolences to the family in this loss of your beloved Bill.

— **Carolyn Kennedy**

My condolences to the entire family. I was blessed to meet Bill and work for him for the last few years that they had the barn. I loved to listen to his stories and give him updates everyday as to how the horses were all doing. I grew to love him like a Grandfather. He will be truly missed.

Forever in our hearts!

Love Sherry, Brittney, and Shayla

— **Sherry S.**

We kept several horses at Cloudwalker over quite a few years and during that time got to appreciate Bill. He was very present around the barn, feeding horses or gardening whenever we were there and just calm and pleasant, taking an interest in what were doing. He was easy going allowing us to keep a small utility trailer there or my son and me to go gopher hunting. I enjoyed hearing stories of geophysical work in exotic places and I liked his book about a farm upbringing. Dealing with horses can have its crises and Bill was always a calm and wise advisor. A good man to have known!

— **Robert Rudolf**



<https://www.myalternatives.ca/obituaries/salt-william-tyrrel>

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