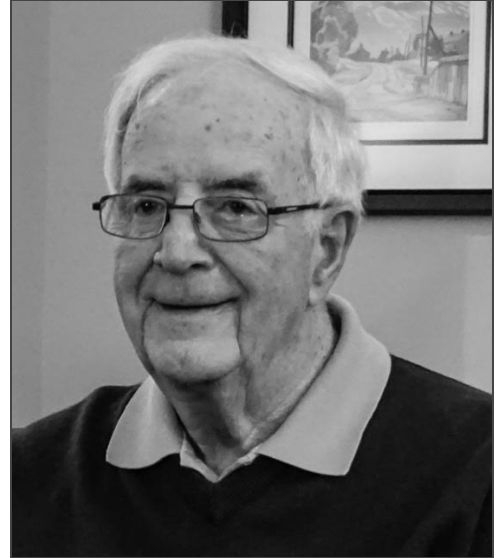


James (Al) Allan Shorten

FEBRUARY 14, 2020

Al Shorten passed away on Valentine's Day, a day he had marked faithfully for years by sending cards to his three daughters, Janice, Patti and Lynda, and to his beloved wife Joyce.



His favorite pastime in his last year was to defy the expectations of doctors, surviving health crisis after crisis, all so that he could go home to his Joyce. In the end, although his spirit and intellect remained strong, his heart could not go on.

Al was born in Calgary in the opening years of the Depression. He loved poetry, and could recite poems he had learned in school till his final days. He wrote poems, and signed them Shortfellow. He wrote vivid stories about his childhood on the Prairies. Art gave his life meaning, and he continued to paint, draw and colour right to the end. But the chief source of meaning in his life was family: his wife of 67 years; his daughters; their husbands Ian, Glenn and James; his grandchildren, Michael and Nadine, Dan and Kelsey, and Graeme and Nick; daughter-in-law Stephanie, son-in-law Chad and great grandchildren Kyla and Devin.

The family would like to thank the staff at Evergreen Heights for the wonderful care they gave Joyce and Al. Donations in lieu of flowers to the Heart and Stroke Foundation. A Celebration of Life will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, at the Chapel at Evergreen (1550 Oxford Street, White Rock, BC)

Messages of Condolence

Wishing strength and love to all of Al's beautiful girls at this difficult time. Al was always kind to me and I have nothing but good memories of him. Sending much love. xxxx

— Sally La Niece

I am so sorry to hear of Al's passing. He came to our Stratford Gardens meditation group many times and he always had a happy smile and some funny stories to tell us. I admired his devotion to Joyce and his family. We really missed him when they went into care at Evergreen. I will always remember his voice and laugh and seeing them down at White Rock pier. He was a fine man and well respected.

— Patricia A Huguet

Keith and I were very sorry to hear of Al's passing. We always enjoyed our little chats when we met he and Joyce on the 2nd floor hallway of Stratford Gardens. They were wonderful neighbours. Our sympathies are with the family.

— Keith & Lesley Leishman



<https://www.myalternatives.ca/obituaries/shorten-james-al-allan>

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