

In the late fall of 2019, Dad suffered a broken hip. He received surgery however was no longer able to stay living at home. Dad moved in to the St. Paul's Care Home in The Pas in January 2020 and remained there until his passing on Monday, May 16, 2022.

Dad continued his hobby of assembling puzzles which he had been doing for many years and continued to do so while living at St. Paul's.

During his stay he celebrated his 95th birthday on July 10, 2021 and was really proud of his letters received from the Prime Minister of Canada on behalf of the Queen as well as provincial leaders.

Dad is survived by his sister Mary Robinson of Prince George B.C.; sons James Shawaga and Walter Shawaga (Larysa); daughters Jackie Patterson (Mark), Lana Harvey (Bob), Iris Gareau, Coralee Shawaga (Brad), Kathy Johnson (Jamal), Patsy Shawaga, Melinda Shawaga; as well as grandchildren Mandy (Jeff), Jerry, Jance (Joy), Amy (Brad), Sabrina (Chris), Tabatha, Desirae, Brittany (Brady), Alesha (Les), Aaron, Rachel, AJ (Lauren), Kera (Josh), Sarah (Brody), Christina, Elizabeth; and great-grandchildren Gage, Isabella, Olivia, Madilyn, Liam, Ella, Evelyn, Eleanor, Bella, Blaze, Bennett, Grayson, Chloe-Rae, Oakland and Aspyn.

Dad was predeceased by his parents Warwara (Barbara) Dziadyk in 1952 and Mykita (Mike) Shawaga in 1973; his wife Ella Mary Waldner; daughter Roseanne Hebert; brothers Walter Shawaga and Steven Shawaga, who passed shortly after their births in 1940 and 1941, brother Fred Shawaga in 1997; sister Anna (Annie) Yaholnitsky in 2013, sister Helen Ogrodnik in 2014, sister Jean Gamble in 2000.



Hemauer Funeral Home, The Pas, Manitoba

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In Loving Memory



In Loving Memory of
Bill Shawaga
July 10, 1926—May 16, 2022



Dad's Story as told to Jackie

Dad was born on Saturday, July 10, 1926 in Sutherland Saskatchewan. He completed grade 11 in 1944, and did part of his grade 12 while helping his Dad on the family farm. Dad worked with Albert and Jenny (brother-in-law and sister) logging, until 1947.

Dad attended the Chicago Vocation Training center in Edmonton Alberta, where he completed the Auto Mechanics and Diesel Engineers course in August 1947.

In September 1947, Mr. Swanson sent Dad to Clear Water, British Columbia to work in his sawmill. While Dad was working in BC, his parents fell on hard times back home on the farm and wired him for financial aid. Grampa Mike's escapade as told by Dad, "John Burdeniuk was in need of some home brew and had gone to Mike and Barbara's to have them make it for him, (as this was a method they used to supplement their income). When grandpa and grandma had the barrel of hooch ready, the cops came and raided the farm smashing up the barrel and fining Grandpa Mike \$485.00, a huge sum which they had no money to pay and would go to jail if the fine was not paid. So Grandpa telegrammed Dad for the money to pay the fine." Dad remained working in BC until 1950.

It was at this time Dad returned home to Saskatchewan, to help his sister Mary and her husband Joe Valois. They had wired Dad to come home and help save the farm by clearing land. Dad took his earnings from working in the saw mill and purchased a D2 Cat, which he used to break the farm land, so Mary and Joe could keep it going.

Shortly after this, Dad took his cat and worked in Barrows, Manitoba for National Mills skidding pulp with his cat. In 1952, Dad and Mr. Balonicky entered into a partnership agreement to run a logging and sawmill operation near Powell, Manitoba. While in Powell, Grandma Barbara took ill on the farm in July 1952, when her daughters had her put in the sanitarium in North Battleford, Saskatchewan. Grandma remained there until she passed in October 1952, due to hardening of the arteries in her brain.

In 1953, Dad moved home to Saskatchewan, not far from his father's homestead and started his own sawmill and logging operation.

Their Story: Dad began dating Mom about 1955, their first child was born in September 1956, when Dad was a young man of 30 and Mom a young woman of only 19, while living in the bush camp (saw mill). They remained living at the camp until 1963, during which time they had 3 more children, and Dad took his Supervisory Safety course in Regina,



Saskatchewan. During the summer of 1963, they had to move because Rose, the first child, would be turning 7 in September and needed to attend school.

In 1963, they moved into Dillabough, Saskatchewan where the family stayed with Mom's parents, as this was close to the bush camp but within the school and bus district for Weeks, Saskatchewan. During the stay with Mom's parents, Dad moved in one of the bunk houses from the bush camp and attached it to a small house and Mom gave birth to her fifth child in October. Shortly after this, Mom's mother passed away due to her diabetes and the family moved across the road into their new home.

Dad continued operating his saw mill until 1968, when Dad was 42 and Mom was 31 with 7 children to support.

At this time Dad and his brother Fred went to The Pas Manitoba, where they stayed with Mom's sister Goldie and her husband Curly, and began work for River Saw Mill. In October 1969, Dad purchased the old boarding house on Crossley Avenue in The Pas and moved his family to The Pas. During the next 3 years there were 3 more children born. With Dad now having 10 children, he decided to take his Industrial Mechanics course and become a mill wright.

With such a large family to support, Dad was always careful with his pennies and managed to purchase a new home (built by Swan River Coop) in 1977, and moved to the Pas beside the old boarding house at 52 Crossley Avenue. As digging the basement and tearing down the old boarding house was a huge undertaking, all the children pitched in to give a hand.

Dad continued to work for River Saw Mill through each of its name changes (ManFor, CFI, Repap, Tolko) until his retirement in 1991.

Mom and Dad remained at 52 Crossley enjoying their garden and time with their children and grandchildren, while unknowingly keeping the old boarding house in spirit, as the children and grandchildren freely moved in and out of their home.

After Mom's passing in 2007, Dad continued living in his home and gardening, canning and making wine with the help of his children and grandchildren. Dad continued allowing family members and friends that needed a temporary home to stay with him.

Dad's eldest daughter, Rosie passed away in March 2015.

Dad was diagnosed with cancer in the early fall of 2016. He was able to remain at home and tried every option provided to fight his cancer.

