

yard. She worked hard every summer caring for the gardens, and would then can and preserve her bounty. There were many jars of pickles, crab apples, plums, blueberries and jams lining the shelves in the "cold room". She made sauerkraut in crocks and froze beets for borscht; and rhubarb for treats; as well, she canned fish in her pressure cooker. She was always prepared to cook for a crowd, having two full-sized freezers in the basement. She was a great cook and there were always fresh perogies and cabbage rolls for all occasions.

Ida was an avid curler for 40 years. She and Frank curled regularly in the CN league, and enjoyed the annual airport bonspiel. She curled for many years in the ladies' matinee league, and later enjoyed watching curling on TV, often commenting on missed shots from her favourite players.

Although not a huge fan of eating fish, Ida loved fishing! She was not a swimmer, but she wouldn't hesitate to jump in the boat to catch the first fish. Coins were always in the tackle box; and if the fish were plentiful, a shore lunch was had. Even if there were no fish caught, Ida would whip out her large cast iron pan and have a batch of bannock (fried bread dough) on the fire. The family often met up at Iskwasum Lake to catch white fish. It was a long hike in, with visits with other family members, and a great feast would be had.

Ida and Frank spent many summers camping at Clearwater Lake, before purchasing their own cabin at Sunset Beach. Ida proudly hosted large family dinners with her parents, her in-laws, and all family who were able to attend. Ida started creating flower gardens throughout the yard, being the first of all the neighbours to start this trend. She filled barrels, bathtubs, barbeques and many pots every year. If it could hold dirt, there would be a flower in it! Ida became obsessed with outdoor solar lights and she added new ones to her collection every year. The yard would be lit up for the night, which was great for the evening campfires with family and neighbours. Frank would bring out his guitar and Ida would pass around treats.

Ida loved playing cards and often played with family and friends.

Ida lived with Parkinson's Disease for approximately 20 years, and she spent her final years at St. Paul's Personal Care Home. The family would like to thank the staff from St. Paul's Personal Care Home, as well as Dr. Marie Noel for her care. Ida passed away in the early hours of November 9, 2021 at St. Paul's at the age of 87 years.

Ida is survived by her four children, sons Lorne Saskowski (Jessica), Lyle Saskowski (Laurel), Brent Saskowski (Cory), and daughter Janis Fjermestad (Michael); nine grandchildren Leslie Saskowski (Alesha), Jamie Saskowski, Chris Saskowski (Stevie), Heather Behrendt (Joel), Crystal Heath (Bryan), Dakota Saskowski, Cheyenne Hogan, Brent Jr. Saskowski (Aleasha), and Emily Fjermestad (Dylan); sixteen great grandchildren Myla, Ryland, Alanna, Kyla, Tyson, Torin, Oaklynn, Quinlan, Elijah, Lydell, Legacy, Mason, Liam, Aaliyah, Tayvia, and Tamia.

Ida will be lovingly remembered by sisters-in-laws Teresa Pidskalny and Fran Saskowski; her nephews: Rod Pidskalny, Scott Pidskalny, and Todd Saskowski; and nieces Wendy Koenig and Twila Saskowski, along with all of their families; as well as some cousins.

Ida was predeceased by her husband Frank, brother Orest Pidskalny, brother-in-law Alvin Saskowski, and granddaughter Ina Saskowski.

*In lieu of flowers donations to a charity of choice can be made in
Frank and Ida's names.*



Hemauer Funeral Home, The Pas, Manitoba

www.hemauerfuneralhome.com



(Dmetro) Frank Saskowski was born in Cowan, Manitoba, Saturday, October 31, 1931 to Peter and Nellie Saskowski.

Frank grew up along the 'Bay Line', with other railroad families as his dad was a Section Foreman and Extra Gang Forman with the Hudson Bay Railway. They lived off the land and Frank became an avid hunter and fisherman. In his early years, Frank went to school in Wabowden, and also took several classes via correspondence. Frank later attended school in Teulon before graduating from St. Paul's College in Winnipeg. He then began work with the CN Railway.

Frank met Ida at a July 1 picnic in Pikwitonei and they were married June 27, 1953 in Winnipeg. Frank worked for CN Telegraphs and in their early years of marriage, they moved around from Winnipeg to Port Arthur (now Thunder Bay ON) to Wabowden, and finally settled in The Pas. They built their house next to Ida's parent's home on Head Avenue, where they raised their family and resided for over 50 years.

Frank managed the Winnipeg Tribune newspaper deliveries for The Pas and area in the mid-70's, until the newspaper company folded in 1980. He hired many local kids as paperboys/papergirls for the home deliveries. Frank retired from CN in November 1986 and shortly thereafter, became the part-time manager of Valhalla Co-op senior's apartment block for roughly 16 years. When Frank and Ida sold their house, they moved into Valhalla.

Frank and Ida loved camping and spent many summers camping at Clearwater Lake, before purchasing their own cabin at Sunset Beach. Ida planted many flowers, and Frank was responsible for watering them.

Frank was an avid fisherman and told many tales of fishing on our beautiful northern lakes. He caught a huge jackfish on Moreton Lake in 1986 and had it stuffed. It still hangs at the cabin at Clearwater Lake. Frank enjoyed hunting and had many moose hunting trips up/down the Saskatchewan River, as well as south to Bissett, and up north in Wabowden and Leaf Rapids areas. Moose meat was the regular meat eaten for family meals. He also hunted geese and ducks.

Ida and Frank both enjoyed gambling and they travelled to Las Vegas a few times; and continued to play once the local casino opened.

Frank had a love of music and played guitar in the Polka Partners band from the 50's and into the 90's. They travelled throughout northern Manitoba playing at weddings, anniversaries and other occasions; as well played at the annual Ukrainian New Year's social at the Norlite Hall for many years. Frank also played guitar at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Cathedral, on floats during numerous town parades, as well as at St. Paul's Personal Care Home. He played the violin and would often enter the fiddling contests held during the annual Trappers' Festival. He also played accordion, piano and spent many hours picking at his mandolin. Frank often entertained his family and neighbours by bringing out his guitar or mandolin in the evenings at the campfire at the cabin.

Frank always had music playing in the house, where he had some of original equipment. He would record his band playing and listen back on the reel to reel, he had many 8-track tapes, vinyl records and cassette tapes of his favourite bands.

Frank did enjoy having a beverage, and spent several years making homemade beer and wine. He looked forward to visitors coming over to share his beer with.

Frank loved playing cards and was a member of a bridge club for several decades. Frank and Ida hosted many annual bridge windups at their cabin, where more cards were played, along with horseshoes. Frank was always up for a game of cribbage as well; and he often played at the Legion on Saturday afternoons. Evening card games at the cabin were held regularly.

Frank was a member of the Knights of Columbus, serving as Grand Knight from 1967-1970. He was Warden of the Charlebois Council 2704 for a number of years; as well as in charge of the ICCD tickets.

Frank's health declined in 2014 when he suffered from a heart condition. Sadly,

dementia quickly followed and he was placed into care. The family would like to thank the staff from the Supportive Housing Unit at the Northern View Lodge, as well as the staff from St. Paul's Personal Care Home. Frank passed away in the early hours of December 23, 2019 at St. Paul's at the age of 88 years.

Frank is survived by his wife of 66 years Ida, and their four children, sons Lorne Saskowski (Jessica), Lyle Saskowski (Laurel), Brent Saskowski (Cory), and daughter Janis Fjermestad (Michael); nine grandchildren Leslie Saskowski (Alesha), Jamie Saskowski, Chris Saskowski (Stevie), Heather Behrendt (Joel), Crystal Heath (Bryan), Dakota Saskowski, Cheyenne Hogan, Brent Jr. Saskowski (Aleasha) and Emily Fjermestad (Dylan); fourteen great grandchildren, Myla, Ryland, Alanna, Kyla, Tyson, Torin, Quinlan, Elijah, Lydell, Legacy, Mason, Liam, Aaliyah, and Tayvia.

Frank will be lovingly remembered by sisters-in-laws Fran Saskowski and Teresa Pidskalny; nephews Todd Saskowski, Rod Pidskalny, and Scott Pidskalny; and nieces Twila Saskowski and Wendy Koenig, along with all of their families; as well as some cousins and his Aunt Mary Piwtorak of Toronto, Ontario.

Frank was predeceased by his brother Alvin Saskowski, brother-in-law Orest Pidskalny, and granddaughter Ina Saskowski.



Ida Emily (Pidskalny) Saskowski was born on a family farm in Aaron, Saskatchewan on Monday, June 25, 1934 to Frank and Helen (Cychmistruk) Pidskalny.

Ida grew up along the 'Bay Line' as her dad was a Section Foreman with Hudson Bay Railway. They lived near Churchill for a time, where they were very isolated. They survived on the land by hunting caribou, moose, chickens, ducks, and geese; as well as catching fish and picking wild berries. They would often travel by motor car to trappers' cabins, where they would gather with other railway families for socializing.

Ida started school by completing grades 1 and 2 through correspondence. She and her brother, Orest, were sent to live on the farm in Ethelbert with their Aunt and Grandparents to attend school. Ida was not used to the farm animals, and would often get chased by the geese. They were driven by oxen and later horses, the 4 miles it took to get to school, but would walk home at the end of the day. It was a difficult time being away from their parents and only seeing them during school holidays. The family later moved to The Pas, where Ida continued school and received her high school diploma.

Ida met Frank at a July 1 picnic in Pikwitonei, and they were married June 27, 1953 in Winnipeg. Frank worked for CN and they moved around before settling in The Pas. They build their house next to Ida's parent's home on Head Avenue, where they raised their family and resided for over 50 years.

Ida held a variety of jobs, starting with Smith's Groceries. She later worked night shift as a nurse's aide at St. Anthony's General Hospital, where she was an expert at soothing and caring for the newborn babies in the nursery. She later worked for her cousin at Gene's Electronics. Most recently, Ida proudly worked as a matron at the RCMP detachment, where she guarded for 25 years before retiring at the age of 80.

At a young age, Ida learned to knit and crochet. She knit many beautiful siwash sweaters and blankets for her family, and would crochet doilies and table coverings. She later began knitting cute animal mitts for kids and adults, as well as slippers, scarves, dish clothes, and scrubbies. Ida would sit for hours at the local craft shows, selling her goodies.

Ida always had vegetable and flower gardens, along with fruit trees in the