

KOWALENKO, Edward Alexander Dec 20, 1926, Perdue, Saskatchewan - Dec 14, 2017, Calgary, Alberta

Edward Alexander Kowalenko, 90, of Calgary, passed peacefully into his eternal rest December 14, 2017, following recent heart and respiratory complications arising from nearly 20 years of quadriplegia. As he often anticipated from his wheelchair, he now stands in the very presence of the Lord who has sustained and now healed him. Ed was born to Jacob and Vera Kowalenko in Perdue, Saskatchewan, on December 20, 1926. He was immersed in both the Russian Mennonite Brethren and later the Christian and Missionary Alliance communities, which would become his lifelong support.

Ed graduated from The University of Saskatchewan in 1952 with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. He married Louise Ruth Loewen of Saskatoon on August 16, 1952, and together they raised their three children in Edmonton and then Calgary, with love and Christ-centred godliness. Ed had a successful leadership role in the chemical and fertilizer industry with Cominco (now Agrium), travelling extensively and retiring in 1990 as Vice President Chemical and Fertilizer Sales, following which he authored a detailed book about the industry in Western Canada. During those busy years, Ed and Louise allowed themselves to be used by God, along with others, to plant Southview Alliance Church in south Calgary, and it was Ed's great joy. He was also a committed member of the Gideons International throughout his career.

Ed and Louise retired to Grindrod, BC, where together they built one of Ed's other great joys, "Elkoko", a home amidst beautiful gardens and grazing horses along the Shuswap River. But in 1998, Ed fell and suffered his "injury" (which he refused to call an "accident") that rendered him a quadriplegic. Ever since, Ed's faith and God's faithfulness to him have been on display for his family and his vast network of friends. Ed and Louise returned to family and Southview Church in Calgary in 2000.

Ed is survived by his wife, Louise, who has tenaciously been his primary care giver; their three children and spouses, Jayne and Mark Burnham, Paul and Sharon Kowalenko, and Donald and Lynne Kowalenko; his ten grandchildren: Lindsay (John Nichols), Jillian (Doug Weston), Brock (Alyssa) Burnham; Warren, Darrel (Rachel), Natalie and Jaclyn Kowalenko; Alison, Jaimie and Megan Kowalenko; and twelve great-grandchildren: Morgan and Levi Nichols; Jayla and Brody Weston; Hannah, Aiden, Jaxon, Tyson and Genevieve Kowalenko; Grayson, Tanner, and Mackenzie Burnham. Ed is also survived by his sisters Mary Hindmarsh of Delta, BC, and Edna Hackett of Burlington, Ontario, and was predeceased by his parents. A Funeral Service will be held at Southview Church (20200 Walden Blvd SE) on Thursday, December 21, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Ed's memory to Southview Alliance Church designated for the To Make Him Known Building Fund. Messages of remembrance may be left for the family at www.southcalgaryfuneralcentre.ca. SOUTH CALGARY FUNERAL CENTRE and CREMATORIUM (at Lake Fraser Gate). Telephone: 403-297-0711. Honoured Provider of Dignity Memorial.