



**GINGRICH,
Cameron Willis "Cam"
Aug. 30, 1923 – Apr. 16, 2017**

The family of Cam Gingrich are deeply saddened to announce his passing at Watrous District Health Complex on Sunday, April 16, 2017 at the age of 93, with his wife Lil at his side.

Cam was born on August 30, 1923 to Ira and Lydiann Gingrich at their homestead farm two miles south of Guernsey, the seventh of eight children. Cam completed his grade 10 in Guernsey, then stayed home to help with the farming operation. In those school years, he and his siblings delivered milk door to door in Guernsey each morning. Later he worked as a welder in Kitchener, Ont. and Watrous, drove a horse-drawn school bus at Watrous,

worked on a drilling rig exploring for potash in the Guernsey area and drove a school bus. He loved the kids like they were his own. He played baseball and hockey at Guernsey, Lanigan, and Watrous, played trumpet in the Guernsey band and with numerous dance bands in the area. In 1956 he achieved a long-time dream when he formed a band - Windy Gingrich and the Dixie Six. His search for a piano player is what led him to the love of his life. Lil Breadner joined the Dixie Six in 1957 and married Cam in 1959. In 1966 Cam and Lil moved their young family to a farm at Simpson when the Guernsey farm was sold to the new potash mine. Cam's farming career evolved from farming with horses to driving a 4WD tractor. The '30s influenced his thinking forever. Community involvement and support were key to success in small town Saskatchewan and Cam was involved in his community in many ways. He served on the telephone board, Co-op, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, RM of Wreford, United Church and community pasture committees. He coached hockey, emceed community events and joined in the Simpson homecoming parades with prized farm equipment and a homemade "Penny Farthing" bike designed and welded himself. Cam's zest for life and belief that "learning is not confined to the four walls of school" was obvious to all who knew him. Cam loved horses, newborn calves, and the smell of freshly tilled soil in the spring, harvest time with meals in the fields, big band and Dixieland music and dogs of any kind. He loved his family, farming and all people. He saw the good in everyone.

Left to treasure his memory is his wife of 57 years, Lil and their children and grandchildren: Don (Christine) Gingrich of Simpson and family, Crystal (Greg) Sperling - Colton, Skyden; Serena (Bret Ward) - Leah, Conner; Laurie (Bryce) Colhoun - Aiden, Neala, Priya, Porter; Karen (Marc) Spooner - Thomas, Ansel; Elden (Justine) McIver; Jeff (Joanne) Gingrich of Simpson and family, Emily; Lisa (CJ) and Bentley, Jeremy, Brodie Dunlop; Joel (Shelley) Gingrich of Red Deer, Alta.; Sandra (Shaun) Dancey of Star City and family Sam and Sophia; Ben (Ashley) Gingrich of Wetaskiwin, Alta.; and family Cameron, Brooke and Brock; sister Norma Henderson; brother-by-choice Albert (Gail) Morisey; brothers-in-law Harold (Berta) Breadner, Howard (Sharon) Breadner; sisters-in-law Irene Gingrich and Delma Breadner and numerous nieces and nephews of which, one nephew, Ernie Steeves spent many summers helping Cam at the Simpson farm.

He was predeceased by his parents Ira and Lydiann Gingrich, three brothers, Harold (Dorothy), Clifford (Olga), and Earl; three sisters, Ilene, Beulah, Stella and brothers-in-law Earl Breadner and Moby Henderson.

Funeral service was held at Simpson Community Centre on April 29 conducted by The Reverend (Karl) Jung-hyun Shin.

Honorary pallbearers were Gabe and Paula Freeman, Vi Rintoul, Lyle Shantz and Dennis and Sylvia Simpson. Don Gingrich, Jeff Gingrich, Joel Gingrich, Ben Gingrich, Sandra Dancey and Ernie Steeves were pallbearers. Register attendants were Roy and Marilyn Crawford and Ray and Bobbi Rintoul. Murray Rintoul and Curtis Freeman were ushers. Prelude guitar music was by Shaun Dancey. The Gingrich Family gave the eulogy and tributes. Special musical tribute: men's quartet - Fred Toman, Wayne Dyck, Reuben Bushman and Lester Toews. Brenda Bushman was the accompanist and hymn musician was Kelly Stein accompanied by the Simpson Community Choir.

Private family interment followed at Simpson Cemetery.

Memorial donations directed to Watrous Community Health Foundation would be appreciated.

To leave online condolences, tributes or to make a donation, please visit www.fotheringham-mcdougall.com


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