

## REMEMBERING Leonard Norman Doerksen

May 15, 1936 - February 7, 2025



Leonard Norman Doerksen was born to Jacob and Anna Doerksen on May 15, 1936, in Herbert, Saskatchewan. He was the older brother of Betty, Esther, Ruth, and Dan.

Len met Esther Epp at MEI (Clearbrook) in Grade 9 and they were married in 1957. Five children were born to them: Dorothy, Paul, Charles, Joyce, and Donald, then more were gladly welcomed to the family, to the third and fourth generation. Theirs was an ardent, long, and faithful love. After his Esther passed in 2023, Len wrote, "... getting older is knowing what loss, grief, and pain are all about ... My love for you is stronger and deeper than ever before. As long as I'm living, your Lenny I'll be."

After graduating from MBBI (Clearbrook), Len completed a B.Th. at MBBC (Winnipeg), a B.A. at Tabor College (Hillsboro), and an M.A. from Chicago Graduate School of Theology. Len taught at Winkler Bible School and Columbia Bible College. Together, Len and Esther were pastor couple at Greendale MB, Hepburn MB, and Eagle Ridge Bible Fellowship. From his teen-aged years and beyond, Len also drove truck for Lepp's, Dueck's, and Rempel Bros. Concrete. He and Esther then travelled the world as "Pastors @ Sea" and ran Mountain Acres B&B on their beautifully forested land on Sumas Mountain.

Len's family walked him Home in his last days, holding his hand, singing songs, and telling stories. In the early hours of February 7, 2025, Len entered that Life after Life, reunited with his wife Esther, his brother Dan Doerksen, and grandson Matthew Peters. He is remembered by his earthly family: his sisters, Betty (John) Kampen, Esther (Cliff) Loewen-Hiebert, and Ruth (Peter) Klassen); his children, Dorothy (Greg) Peters, Paul Doerksen, Charles (Debbie) Doerksen, Joyce (Brian) Doerksen, Donald Doerksen; his 16 grandchildren, Dorolen, Jonathan, David, Chris, Nicole, Daniel, Kathryn, Sarah, Hannah, JJ, Rachel, Esther, Benjamin, Joy,

Mercy, and Isaiah and Nick; and his 18 great-grandchildren, Livia, Matthew, Nathan, Jackson, Silas, Emmy, Olive, Boston, Rhys, Forrest, Romeo, Griffyn, Kira, Everest, Carter, Gwyneth, Emmerson, and Macsen.

Len's memorial service will be Friday, February 21 at 1:00 p.m. at the Clearbrook M.B. Church (2719 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford, BC).

Please consider carpooling to the service.

