

CULLIS, Harry Ernest

Harry Cullis passed away peacefully at his home in Vancouver on March 9, 2013 at the age of 94. Harry will be greatly missed by his beloved wife of 70 years, Freddy; his son Pieter (Nancy), daughter Tara (David); grandchildren Jeffrey, Jane, Severn (Judson) and Sarika (Chris); great-grandsons Ganhlaans and Tiisaan; his niece Sue (Robert) and great nieces Katie (Allan) and Emma, his cousin Donna, and the Jones family in the prairies. He also leaves his sister Mary, brother George (Barbara), in England, and many cousins, nieces, nephews, and their children. Harry was born and grew up in the Forest of Dean in Gloucestershire, England. He studied Physics at Durham University, where he met his soul-mate Freda (Freddy) Rutter, marrying in wartime 1942. At 22 he became Captain in the British Army's Royal Electrical Mechanical Engineers (R.E.M.E.). Captain Cullis shipped to Calcutta in 1943, to install radar around north-eastern India. Reunited after three long wartime years, Harry and Freddy settled in in the Cotswolds. In 1955, Harry and Freddy and children set sail on the Cunard Liner Ivernia to Montreal, then rode the train across Canada to BC. After a year in Port Alberni they settled in West Vancouver. Harry was a teacher and vice principal West Van Secondary from 1956-1965, and was principal of Sentinel Secondary from 1965-1969. Harry became Superintendent of Schools in the Howe Sound and Lillooet School districts. Sportsman, bricoleur, poet and gardener, Harry built beautiful vegetable and flower gardens everywhere he lived, and for others too. A funeral will be held on Monday, March 18 at 1 p.m. at the West Vancouver Baptist Church, 450 Mathers Avenue, West Vancouver near Capilano View Cemetery, where his ashes will later be interred. A reception will follow. Harry was very special; he made a difference; we loved him, and he will be sorely missed.

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