

MacDonald, William John

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Bill, author, teacher, photographer, weatherman, forester, died the morning of Thursday, September 25, 2014, completing his life's journey. He was born in Fort William on a snowy May morning. At the age of two months, he was taken to Silver Islet, his spiritual home. Because he loved the outdoors, he became a forester, but hated what the lumber companies did to the trees and land. He became a weatherman so he could see more of the outdoors, and was posted to Resolute on Cornwallis Island, then to Alert, the most northern Canadian outpost, comprised of eight people. That was followed by a degree from the University of Manitoba. The next year he went to Paris to continue his studies. When he came back, he married Cathy Koroniak. He taught at Hillcrest High School until he retired because of ill health. At that time his writing career took off. He started with the Porphyry Press in 1987, then with Borealis Press for 30 or so more books. His latest book "Days to Remember" was published this year, and was to be followed by "Days to Forget", but poor health got in the way. Some of his happiest times were hours spent at Silver Islet. He loved Fireweed and Artisans Northwest, where he could talk to his fans about his books. Bill is survived by his wife Cathy, and many relatives throughout Canada, and many literary relatives throughout the world. He was predeceased by his father John, and mother Marjorie. According to Bill's wishes, cremation has taken place, and there will be no service. If friends and readers would like to pay tribute to Bill, a book of remembrance will be available at Fireweed for your comments. Support local authors in Bill's memory. He was a kind and gentle man.

