

Alvin (Art) Lawrence Kohlsmith Obituary

On February 6, the morning of his 92nd birthday; Alvin Lawrence Kohlsmith passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family.

He leaves behind his loving wife Denyse of 70 years, his children Randy, Deanna, Timothy (Judy), Carl, his grandchildren, Kristen, Anthony (Margorie), Katie (Dave) Haworth, his step granddaughters, Shannon, Tammy and numerous great grandchildren. Alvin is survived by his sister Marjorie Schrie, of Cobden Ontario. He was predeceased by his brother, John, and sister, Sylvia.

Alvin was an extraordinary man, who lied about his age and joined the Canadian Military when he was 15 years old. He was a paratrooper in the Airborne Regiment. He then transferred to the Army Engineers where he spent most of his service. When he was 18 years of age, he fought in the Korean war. After the war, he served in numerous locations in Canada from coast to coast to coast and four years in Germany.

Alvin retired from the military in 1986, to work for the Department of External Affairs, looking after our Canadian embassies in North & South America. He then worked for the British High Commission in Ottawa until his full retirement. In the late 1990's he and Denyse moved from Ontario to Leduc, Alberta to be closer to family.

Alvin joined the Leduc branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. Every November, prior to Remembrance Day, he was invited to talk to students in the various schools of the Black Gold School District. He was a great storyteller, and the students often found his military experiences riveting.

A celebration of life for Alvin will be held on Friday, February 21, 2025, at 11:00 am at St. David's United Church, 4614 48 Street in Leduc, AB.

If you would like to honour Alvin's memory in lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to the Leduc Royal Canadian Legion. E-transfers can be sent to rcl.leducoffice@gmail.com