

GONEAU, Leo Arthur (Petty Officer, ret'd)

— 77, Halifax, passed away peacefully November 21, 2007, in the Halifax Infirmary, QEII. Born in Midland, Ont., he was a son of the late Arthur and Katherine (Fitzgerald) Goneau.



At a young age, he went to work in the Midland Shipyards. In 1947, he joined the Royal Canadian Navy as an ordinary seaman in the Steward Branch. In 1950, he was drafted to the Coast Diving Unit where he conducted his naval diving tasks in many various places throughout the world, including Puerto Rico, the Arctic and Bermuda, to name a few. Leo served aboard HMCS Magnificent, Haida, Columbia and Cape Scott, and he was also one of the founding members and a past president of the Canadian Naval Divers Association. After retirement from the navy in 1974, he worked at NSCAD as well as owned his own cleaning business, retiring in the mid 1990s. Leo spent many happy hours with his family, especially his grandchildren, as well as his four-legged "pal", Miss Chloe. Surviving are his daughters, Nancy (Everett) Cleversey, Sydney; Jackie (Terry) Burke and Connie (Roger) Keefe, both of Lower Sackville; son, Michael, Halifax; grandchildren, Leah, Randy, Matthew, Sara, Erin, Evan, as well as seven great-grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews, and companion, Ann Drake; brothers, Neil and Bernard (Elva), both of Midland, Ont.; sisters, Beryl Girard, Audrey Head, and sister-in-law, Verna Góneau, all of Midland, Ont. He was predeceased by his wife of 30 years, Bernice (Richards); brothers, Donald and William; sisters, Florence, Eileen, Helen. Cremation has taken place under the direction of Atlantic Funeral Home, 6552 Bayers Rd., Halifax, where the family will receive visitors 7-9 p.m. Friday. Memorial mass will be held 10 a.m. Saturday in St. Plus X Roman Catholic Church, 165 Coronation Ave., Father Mark Cherry officiating. A reception will follow in the church hall. Burial will take place in Oakridge Memory Gardens. Family flowers, a donation in Leo's memory may be made to a charity of choice. Leo will be sadly missed by his many diving buddies whom he considered family. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting: www.atlanticfuneralhomes.com