

he had told her enthusiastically how the muskrats had increased at Rousay Lake a few miles south of her farm. She married him in spite of the muskrats.

As his nephew Don McKen said at Jack's funeral, "Jack had a strong and dominating personality, a strong sense of right and wrong, and an aura of certainty, steadfastness, and confidence. ... He was an entertaining and effective speaker. ... But he had a softer side as well; he was able to see equal beauty in a prairie flower, a prairie gopher, a bear, a moose, a lake, a butterfly, and yes, indeed, a muskrat."

In 1955, Jack was transferred to Regina and promoted to Supervisor of Game, responsible for wildlife law enforcement across Saskatchewan. He developed a hunting and gun safety manual for new training programs, and this manual remains largely intact today. He often spoke at wildlife federation meetings. In his spare time he hosted a sportsman's show on CKCK television, where his efforts behind and in front of the camera won him three national awards for excellence. He and Ellen purchased a summer cottage in the Qu'Appelle Valley, roughly halfway between Regina and her relatives near Yorkton.

In 1967, the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) lured him to a position in Edmonton as Head of Regulations

and Enforcement. He founded the North West Wildlife Law Enforcement Officers Association. When he took early retirement in 1980, A.H. MacPherson, Regional Director-General of CWS, said that Jack was "an impressive and skilful communicator," with an affinity for rural residents. After retirement Jack became president of the Stony Plain Fish and Game League and served one term as president of the provincial body. For a month each year he taught gun and hunter safety courses at the Renewable Resources School at Fort Smith, NWT, but his greatest love was his magnificent flower garden. He died in Edmonton just a month before his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday, on June 14, 2000. He is survived by his wife, daughters Connie and Cathy (twins) and Laurel, and five grandchildren.

As Don McKen said, "Jack will be remembered as an active, passionate, involved, and dedicated man, who loved and cherished his family, and who helped make the world a better place."

I acknowledge major assistance from the funeral eulogy prepared by Don McKen, whose own interests began with a present from his Uncle Jack, Peterson's *Field Guide to the Birds*.

\* Each year Jack commented on how decent it was of the Government of Canada to give everyone a holiday on his birthday.



"In 1924, three billion orange and black painted lady butterflies flew at about six miles per hour from Northern California to Southern California and on into Mexico." by Joanne E. Lauck, *The Voice of the Infinite in the Small* 1998 p. 270