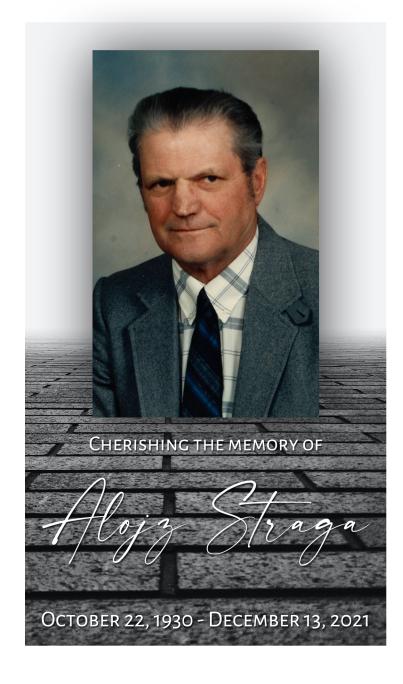
I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below, With tiny lights, like Heaven's stars, reflecting in the snow. The sight is so spectacular. Please wipe away the tear, For I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year. I hear the many Christmas songs that people hold so dear, But the sounds of music can't compare with the Christmas choir up here. I have no words to tell you the joy their voices bring, For it is beyond description to hear the angels sing. I know how much you miss me. I see the pain inside your heart, But I am not so far away. We really aren't apart. So be happy for me dear ones. You know I hold you dear, And be glad I'm spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year I sent you each a special gift from my Heavenly home above, I sent you each a memory of my undying love. After all, love is a gift more precious than pure gold. It was always most important in the stories Jesus told. Please love and keep each other as my Father said to do, For I can't count the blessing or love he has for each of you So have a Merry Christmas and wipe away that tear. Remember, I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year Honoured to serve the family of Alojz Straga To Send a condolence, please visit our website at



ALOJZ STRAGA, beloved husband of Ivka Straga, passed away peacefully at the Chinook Regional Hospital, on Monday, December 13, 2021 at the age of 91 years.

Alojz was born in Mali Banovac, Croatia, to Marija and Antoni Straga. He started to learn the bricklayer trade in Croatia where he worked alongside his grandfather. In 1952, he met his best friend and soulmate Ivka, they were fortunate enough to have spent more than 69 years together. They got married April 22, 1952. Three years later, they tried to immigrate to Canada, but due to unrest were unable to. Instead, they left for Austria. Two years later, they were able to immigrate to Canada and settled in Iron Springs, with Ivka's aunt and uncle Hormoth, on the farm, before moving to Lethbridge 3 years later.

Alojz was overjoyed and so proud to welcome their first daughter Linda in 1965, and Terry in 1967. His number one priority was his family. He loved playing with his girls, watching them grow, and taking yearly family vacations to BC. In later years he enjoyed time playing with his grandchildren, and most recently spending time with his great grandchildren.

Alojz was a skilled bricklayer, proudly pointing out the numerous buildings in the city he worked on, as well as all across Alberta. He would fix anything and was called upon many times by his family for repairs, which he gladly obliged. Even as his health slowed him down, he could be found on a ladder or roof at the age of 90 years old.

Alojz had a quiet dry humor although often silent, when he did speak, he was always good for a laugh.

Alojz is survived by his wife Ivka, daughter Linda (Bill) Bennett, grandchildren Christina Bennett, Jordan Bennett (Tayler) and greatgrandchildren Addison, Kinnley and Maddon. He is also survived by 3 brothers - Vlado, Frank and John and families. His sister Regina in Austria, Ruzina in Croatia and their families. He was predeceased by his daughter Terry Tschernetzki in 1992, his brothers Pero and Carlo, his sisters Anna, Theresa and Mira.

The family would like to send a sincere thanks to Dr. Amatto and the staff at Campbell Clinic West for their care over the years. A special thank you to Rick Siemens at London Drugs Pharmacy for your kindness and care and Dr. Plotnyk and the staff on 4A for your compassionate care while Alojz was a patient there.

Please join the family at the luncheon following the interment at 2:30PM the Nord-Bridge Seniors Center at 1904 14 Ave North. This invitation is extended to those unable to attend the services as well as those who were able to.

If you would like to contribute to Alojz memory in some way, please make a donation to the charity of your choice.

Prayer Service

Cornerstone Funeral Home 2825 - 32nd Street South, Lethbridge, Alberta Friday, December 17, 2021, at 7:00 PM

Officiant - Deacon Michael Pollard

Funeral Mass

St. Martha's Catholic Church 355 - Columbia Boulevard West, Lethbridge, Alberta Saturday, December 18, 2021, at 1:00 PM

> Celebrant - Father William Monis Musician - Christina Lohues Reader - Ivka Kadezabek

Readings
First - Ecclesiastes 3:1-11a
Psalm 103
Second - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Gospel - John 14:1-7
Prayers of The Faithful

Hymns
Processional - Be Not Afraid
Offertory - Only A Shadow
Communion - Jesus Is Calling
Meditation - Ave Maria
Recessional - How Great Thou Art

Interment Following the Mass, Alojz will be laid to rest in Mountain View Cemetery

Pallbearers
John Straga Keylee Makin Joseph Kadezabek
Carlo Straga Bill Bennett Jordan Bennett