

Passages - The Rev. Clive Balfour- December 15, 1926 - February 26, 2014



Clive and Lois Balfour's 59th Wedding Anniversary 2008

Photo credit: Ray Lett

Clive was born December 15, 1926 in North Battleford, Saskatchewan. He moved to Winnipeg in December 1945 to begin an apprenticeship with the CN Railway working there for ten years, first as a machinist, then as a drafting apprentice, and finally as a draftsman. Always inspired by a love of learning, he went from drafting to designing to engineering supervisor of a foundry, becoming a teacher at Red River College. For 19 years he taught young people to do the things he loved.

The three defining characteristics of Clive's life were his faith, his love of learning, and his love of music. He was involved in a number of bands in his early years in Winnipeg and met Lois in 1948 when both were musicians with the Manitoba Youth Orchestra. After a short courtship, they married on February 5, 1949. After he met Lois, he became a member of All Saints' Anglican Church in Winnipeg. Over the next 38 years, he went from server to sacristan, to lay reader, to priest. In 1971 he was ordained as a "worker priest", a relatively new concept at the time. He served as honorary assistant at All Saints' and St. Michael and All Angels while continuing his work as a drafting instructor.

Clive retired in 1988 and he and Lois moved to Victoria. They found a new church home at St. Luke's, where he worked as assistant to the Rector for 6½ years. After that, he continued to serve as honorary assistant until shortly before his death. During his retirement, Clive once again became actively involved in music, playing in community bands and singing with the church choir. He took up Tai Chi and for several years taught a modified version to seniors with mobility challenges. Even when unable to be as physically active Clive continued to learn and explore new interests.

Source: St. Luke's Prescription, Easter 2014