

## Emilio Abiusi

Mar. 15, 1929 — Nov. 01, 2014



EMILIO ABIUSI was born March 15, 1929 in Miglierina, Calabria, a very small town of Italy, that produced many immigrants who, over the years, chose Winnipeg as their destination as they sought a place for a better future for themselves and their growing family.

Emilio was born in Southern Italy, in the village of Miglierina at a time of turmoil and uncertain destiny. Belonging to an established and educated family, his childhood began with great opportunity, but his world was overturned when at 12 years of age his father Giacomo died.

To support his mother and their young family, Emilio had some quick growing up to do. He did not hesitate a moment in leaving his schooling dreams as he went to work at the village blacksmith shop with his Uncle Peppino. Dad surely developed his courage and strength of character in this trying time. Dad's faith and strength were his pillars as he led his family from poverty to Canada in the 1950s.

Emilio married Serafina Loschiavo in 1957 and settled in Winnipeg following the path of many Italians immigrants. Working in construction, Dad was a hard worker and excellent provider who made it his mission to bring his extended family to Canada. His happiest moments were held after his extended family including mother, sister and many cousins were reunited in the west end of Winnipeg.

While many of his Italian counterparts longed to return to Italy, Dad became a proud Canadian and never had a strong desire to leave. He loved Winnipeg and believed that Canada was the greatest country in the world. Dad lived a full and meaningful life imparting his children with his work ethic and his love for family, but he found his greatest joy and purpose being a Nonno.