



Ross Alexander McLeod
February 17, 1915 - January 16, 1998

Ross McLeod was born on the family farm in Salmon Arm on February 17, 1915, the fourth child of Jack and Marion McLeod.

Ross owned a dairy farm at 3931 Foothill Road. He farmed all his life and loved the land.

In 1941 Ross married Winsome Marion Garbutt—the daughter of another pioneer family, Wray and Ella Garbutt. Ross and Winsome had three children, Ken, Mary Anne, and John.

Ross served on the Municipal Council in the late 1940s and '50s. He also served on the School Board, and was very involved when, in 1951 rural children were kept out of school—the consequence of a tax dispute between Village authorities and Rural ratepayers. Ross believed in the principle that education is free, compulsory and universal regardless of whether the child's parent has paid, or was liable to pay taxes. The dispute went to the Supreme Court, and Ross's case won. The rural children went back to school.

Ross helped organize a Farmers Union in Salmon Arm. He served as an advisor to the Land Commission, and felt that farm land was a sacred trust. Ross was a life long member of the CCF/NDP.

Ross loved his family, his farm, and the Shuswap. He felt that Salmon Arm was the best place in the world to live.

Notes provided by Heather McLeod