

Donald MacKay was one of Edmonton's old-style business people. He was known as a man of integrity like his old friend Tom Fox, who passed away the previous year - he was a person whose word was his bond.

Don was born in Edmonton, lived here all his life and loved the province. He started at the bottom of a company and, through hard work and enterprise, ended up as a full partner.

"The one unifying thread that runs through his life is the value he placed on friendship and family. His loyalty to friends was remarkable".

Mr. MacKay was born July 30, 1913, in what was then the extreme west end of the city, near the current location of Westmount Shopping Centre. His family had moved here from Scotland a short time before. He started in the lumber business with Hales H. Ross & Sons Co. Ltd. in the late 1930's and stayed with the company all his life. He ended up a full partner with Cliff Ross and the pair got into the oil business in the late 1940's after the first oil well was drilled in Leduc, AB. Eventually, they owned about 20 companies.

At different times, Don was president of the Alberta Forest Products Association, the Canadian Cutting Horse Association, the Greater Edmonton Horseman's Association and the Edmonton Flying Club. He was also Commodore of the Edmonton Yacht Club at Lake Wabamun. Don was inducted into the Canadian Cutting Horse Hall of Fame in 1988.

Don passed away at the age of 82.