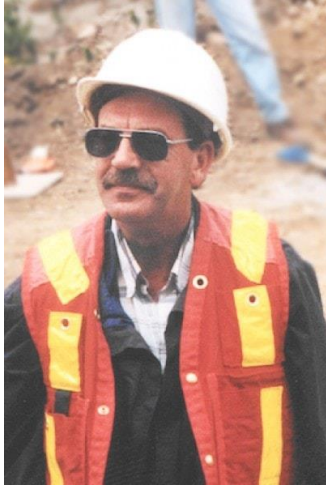


THIS IS HOW I KNEW BRUCE CASSIDY

When Linda invited me to speak about her partner Bruce, I reflected on how and when I first met him



and under what circumstances. As best that I can recall, we were introduced by Mario DiBella at Martech Offices. Mario was excited about becoming a General Contractor as well as continuing as a successful Electrical Trade Contractor, when he proudly ushered in Bruce and announced that he had formed a partnership with him to undertake Civil projects.

How does one pay a very deserved tribute to Bruce Cassidy.

Firstly, Bruce and I are hearing impaired and therefore we needed extra care to ensure we heard each other correctly.

Journeyman Carpenters usually become great Construction Managers and so it was with Bruce at the helm of Marwest Industries Ltd.

This opinion was one that was given to me during the time that I came from the farm and worked summers with my two Carpenter Tradesmen brother in the Kootenays. One Summer, my brother Russel made a careful assessment on my ability by saying “no matter how hard Lawrence and I tried, you will never make a Carpenter and so you just might as well become an Engineer”.

I never forgot that advice as no matter what the challenge was in construction, I always searched for advice from a Tradesman and never regretted that solution.

I never realized that Bruce was born in Porcupine Plains, Saskatchewan until I read his obituary. This community was North of Preeceville, a railway hub while I came from Pelly which was just East. We might say, we came from the same area. As we all already know, many good people migrated from the prairies to develop B.C., and so it was with Bruce and I.

In my years as a General Contractor, involved in buildings, Mario had served as an Electrical Contractor where we enjoyed an admirable relationship. It was a natural progression to consider the new partnership of Mario with Bruce, at Marwest, as a Civil Contractor, when I became involved in subdivision development as a Project Manager.

The Emerald Ridge Subdivision in Warfield was a challenge with a great deal of rock work. Marwest was the best pricing of the tender call and chosen to construct this large development of over sixty (60) acres. Despite the obstacles, the project was completed in reasonable time and on budget.

I was impressed that Bruce’s sons were active in that project with Stuart operating much of the machinery and Michael was then “Boy Friday” as he ran his ATV just about everywhere including where there were no accesses constructed. Bruce was a family man and at one time he even had Linda out doing Flag Girl duties. Bruce enjoyed getting his family involved.

In contracting, the level and record of success is the final deficiency list at project end. Bruce in his inevitable fashion had a short list at the end of Emerald Ridge, completed all in a timely fashion. This does not take place accidentally but is a result of Bruce's Carpenter Tradesmanship and Project Management training. Nothing was accepted by Bruce as "good enough" but required exactness and needed a classification of "right on".

Honesty and integrity was Bruce's old-fashioned character and our written contracts were for reference only while the spoken word was all that was necessary to complete the work.

Relationship with Bruce Cassidy was total respect for knowledge and professionalism in our mutual responsibilities. It defined the successful end projects.

A few years later a sixty (60) acre Grandview project in Castlegar was in the planning stages. I came to Bruce for budgeting advice as well as subdivision planning. There were no reservation nor hesitation and his expertise was fundamental into the final development. His initial budgeting was close to the end contracts.

Again, the project was completed in a timely fashion and on budget.

We were both blindsided by the extraneous demands outside the Preliminary Lot Approval (PLA) by the City of Castlegar that resulted in financial failure of that seniors' project. A completed Grandview subdivision remains a testament to successful planning and construction, influenced by Bruce Cassidy.

I could carry on, but I believe my appreciation of knowing Bruce is clearly understood. On completion of Grandview Phase II, Bruce decided on a well-deserved retirement.

I never did get to a Marwest "Safety Meeting" at the end of the week.

The construction community will remember and miss him as a professional Builder.

Thank you, Bruce, for the opportunity to work with you and being my friend!

Elmer Verigin