

# NV man devotes life to learning and service

## **Continues to improve himself and his community**

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By Laura Anderson

Education and service are themes in Stanley Dzuba's life.

He is an autodidact, self-taught in ISO 9000 (quality management and quality assurance standards for the International Organization for Standardization) and casting bronze. He is learning Spanish. All this—and two university degrees.

Stanley's grandfather emigrated from Ukraine in 1903, leaving his inheritance undetermined, to homestead near Canora, Sask. When the Soviets introduced collective farming, their vast landholdings vanished along with the family title of Baron.

Stanley's father, the only son among five sisters, took over the farm. "My father was smarter than I am today with all my education. He would borrow history books from the older students to study on his own. Our one-room school only went to Grade 8 and that was it for him," Stanley recalls. "He learned the piano after three weeks of lessons."

On Sundays, his father played the organ in church, decorated with flowers from his garden.

Stanley's quest for an education began early. His older brother went off to that one-room school, leaving five-year-old Stanley without a playmate. He walked to school with his brother, 3\* miles each way. After a week, Stanley decided to give up school though his parents thought otherwise and his schooling continued.

At boarding school in Yorkton, Stanley's plan to get an education combined with his introduction to military service. At graduation, he had risen to the rank of Seniors Cadet in the school's cadet corps. With his mother's endorsement, 17-year-old Stanley enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force. He would become a pilot and go to university. Stanley trained as a radar technician while waiting for an opening in aircrew. When the opportunity came at last, the door to one of Stanley's dreams closed -- being colourblind, he could not apply for pilot's training.

Stanley transferred to the Canadian army, graduating in electrical engineering from the University of Saskatchewan under the regular officer training program and earning a degree in law during his career in the military.

"Canada and the military have been very good to me," Stanley says, "and I wanted to give something back." When Stanley left the regular army for the federal public service, he joined the Canadian reserve army. He earned the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and commanded the Vancouver Service Battalion for four years.

Stanley had been promoted and transferred to Vancouver in 1964. On the military side, he rose to zone chairman for the Army Cadet League of Canada and served as national president of the Royal Canadian Executive Mechanical Engineer/Land Ordnance Reserve Engineering (RCEME/LORE) Association. From 1983 to 1986, he contributed his accumulated annual leave to serve on the B.C. Parole Board. At the

same time, he was invested in the Sovereign Order of Saint John and the Military Order of Saint Lazarus.

After retiring in 1988, Stanley joined the Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO). Stanley took on volunteer assignments all over the world for CESO and for the Order of Saint Lazarus, specializing in telecommunications and in ISO 9000.

Stanley developed his expertise in ISO by, "getting the manuals and reading them until I understood them. My first assignment was to Russia, helping a milk processing plant get ISO certification. Of course, I had to brush up on my Russian. I've had assignments in Peru, Indonesia, Ghana, Armenia, even in Ukraine."

With Ada, his second wife, Stanley travelled extensively even when not on assignment. They visited every continent with the exception of Antarctica before she passed away last year.

Stanley cultivated his interest in sculpture, teaching himself, again from books, to cast bronze. His bust of former B.C. premier W.A.C. Bennett is in the MLA lounge in Victoria.

Stanley has plans to travel to China and volunteers as the electrician at Silver Harbour Centre.

For his contributions over the years, Stanley has been awarded the Queen's Silver Jubilee medal, NATO and distinguished service medals and the Order of Merit.

Medals, membership in a military order and a baronetcy in the family tree -- Stanley enjoys all the trappings of a blueblood but it is his lifelong record of service that makes him a true aristocrat.