



Condolence Notice – Dr. Valerio (Val) Matteotti

Monday, October 27th – The passing of Dr. Valerio (Val) Matteotti has deeply saddened the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation family. The Foundation – its Staff and Board of Directors, offers its condolences to Val's family, friends and colleagues. Val was an outstanding member of our community and his generosity and commitment to the city of Lethbridge was unparalleled.

Val passed away in Lethbridge on October 17, at the age of 101, with his wife, Flora, and family by his side. Val was born in Italy on February 2, 1913. Val's family immigrated to Canada while he was just a baby, leaving him in Italy until they had established themselves. Val joined his family in the early 1920's on a farm south of Cardston.

Val and Flora were married in 1948. They worked together, establishing Val Matteotti Ranches, which through the years included land holdings throughout Southern Alberta. In 1988 they sold their last ranch and began investing in residential and commercial real estate in both Lethbridge and Calgary.

The Matteotti's established themselves as the pioneers of philanthropy in Southern Alberta with gifts to local hockey teams. Flora has been quoted as saying, "what started as a little stream grew into a raging river. There was no stopping Val once he got started"! Val actively donated to: the Chinook Regional Hospital, University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge College, Lethbridge Minor Hockey, Lethbridge Minor Soccer, Lethbridge Minor Baseball, Lethbridge Handicap Riding Association, Southern Alberta Art Gallery, United Way of Lethbridge and South Western Alberta, City of Lethbridge Parks and Tree Planting Program and the list goes on. With a focus on health, sports and education, Val and Flora made large contributions to causes that used the gifts wisely to have immediate impact on their community.

Val was extremely proud of his involvement with the *Val Matteotti Italian Open*, of which he and Flora served as Tournament Patrons; in fact, just days before his passing he was discussing the details of 20th year of the Italian Open. Directly benefitting the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation, the Italian Open has grown to be one of the most successful and most prestigious golf tournaments in Southern Alberta. In its 19 years, the tournament has raised net funds of over \$1.2 million which has been used to enhance the care provided throughout the Chinook Regional Hospital.

Val is survived by his devoted wife, Flora and large extended family.

Vigil Rites (Prayers) will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 22, 2014 at Martin Brothers Riverview Chapel, 610 4 Street South, Lethbridge. A Funeral Mass will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 23, 2014 at Southminster United Church, 1101 4 Avenue South, Lethbridge.