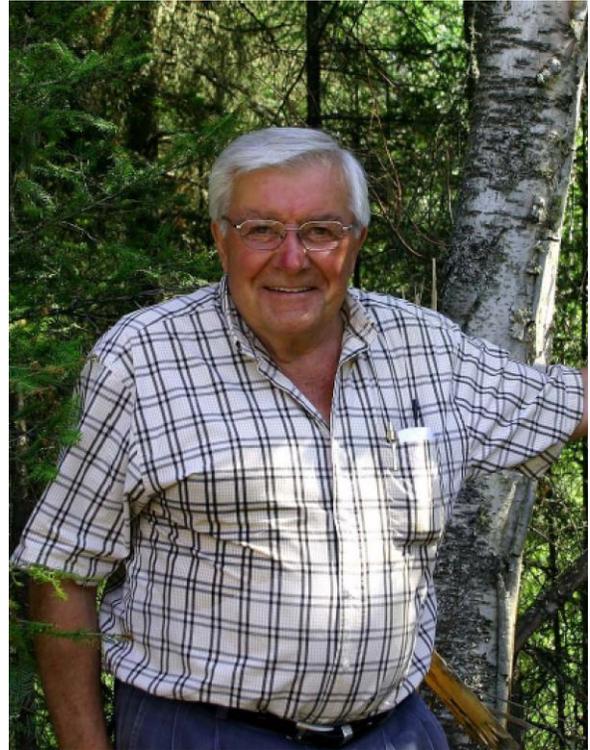# ARNE PETERSEN

Very few people can walk into the boreal forest and imagine a championship golf course under their feet. Arne Petersen is such a man. One has to admire his vision in carving out the Elk Ridge Golf and Resort complex in northern Saskatchewan.

Arne bought the property east of Prince Albert National Park in 1989 and drew up plans for a unique and challenging golf course which could complement busy Waskesiu. He began clearing bush and had the first nine holes ready in 1993. By 2003 there were three nines in operation - the Aspen, Birch and Tamarack courses, all taking advantage of the natural landscape. The Audubon Society has recognized the specialized care and management of the surrounding forest, something Arne has been sensitive to from the beginning.

Other awards have recognized the quality of the golf course. A number of tournaments have been held at Elk Ridge: the Canadian Senior Women's Championship in 2007, the Provincial Championship for Senior Men in 2014, the Saskatchewan Men's Mid-Amateur and Women's Amateur in 2015, and the Saskatchewan Mixed Championships in 2003 and 2007. Many junior events have taken place at Elk Ridge as well.

Arne Petersen was born in Wadena 80 years ago, one of a family of fourteen. He left home at age fifteen to work in the oilfields, then on roads and in construction. That was followed by ten years with MacMillan Bloedel and five years with the Prince Albert Pulp Mill. In 1975, he formed the Precision Service and Engineering company which he owned and operated for twenty years. During his career he travelled all over the world. Arne is known for his work ethic and thoughtfulness regarding his staff – never asking anyone to do something he wouldn't do himself.

Arne has two daughters, Debby and Darlene, four grandchildren, and three great grandchildren. Some members of the family work at the Elk Ridge resort which has year-round amenities for accommodation, dining and outdoor activities – an amazing Saskatchewan golf and recreation spot.