

Biography of Mohammed Eludin

On September 14 1953, Mohammed and Mariam Eludin and their son Zicki (3 years old) arrived in Halifax and like millions of Canadian immigrants landed at Pier 21. The trip by ship had taken 30 days and had been very difficult. They had to abandon ship near Malta as their original ship ran into difficulties and they lost most of their luggage. They arrived in Canada with only a few belongings and not much money.

From Halifax they caught the trans-Canada train to Edmonton, Alberta. Here they were met by relatives who had made the voyage from Lebanon before them and together they traveled by car to what would soon be their permanent home and place of retirement; Lac La Biche.

They lived for four months with Mariam's brother Abdul-Latif. Life was difficult for them as work was hard to find. Mariam worked on her brother's mink ranch, while Mohammed went to Edmonton to find work. Eventually after four months, with the help of Mohammed's Uncle Hussein (who lived in Minnesota), they were able to establish their own home and mink ranch in Lac La Biche.

They had many trials and tribulations, struggling to adjust to a new land and language, but their will and determination was strong. They continued to ranch for several years until 1975 and eventually ventured into small business. Their eldest son Zicki became a pharmacist and opened up a drugstore in Lac La Biche in 1976.

Education was always a driving factor in the household as they pushed for a better life for their family. Although they were always hard at work providing for their children and making a living out of difficult situations, they instilled the importance of family, honesty and integrity in each of our hearts. It is with great honor that we can say they are our parents and grandparents. Mohammed and Mariam's legacy will continue to live on with 12 children, 33 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren...and counting!

Mohammed Eludin passed away on March 29, 1996.

