

## Alex Merriman, a Legend

**From:** Norm Neiderer [nnwneiderer@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Sat 2016-09-03 @1:00am

FYI Gents,

Norm

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Nigel Burden <[nburden@telus.net](mailto:nburden@telus.net)>

**Date:** Friday, 2 September 2016

**Subject:** Alec Merriman.

**To:** Armstead Myles <[mylesarmstead007@gmail.com](mailto:mylesarmstead007@gmail.com)>, Thomas Mike <[mntomas@shaw.ca](mailto:mnthomas@shaw.ca)>

..... a sad note from Ken MacLead; Norm could you please send it to your outside contacts.

Nigel

Dear Folks,

Long-time Vancouver Island fishing guru and Victoria Colonist Outdoors Writer Alec Merriman passed away in Victoria yesterday at the age of 97. Alec's daughter Barbara Lang phoned to give me the news.

Alec was one of the gurus of Vancouver Island sports fishing. He authored several books, including two classics, one on freshwater fishing on Vancouver Island and another on saltwater fishing on Vancouver Island, complete with many fine photos of fishermen and their catches captured by Alec on camera.

In addition to writing books on fishing and his regular outdoors column in the Colonist (all of which were preserved in scrapbooks by Taffy Merriman, his Welsh war bride), Alec was responsible for three major fishing accomplishments:

- 1) negotiating with logging companies to get them to open their roads to fishermen (Alec wrote three books on Travelling Gravel Roads on the Island);

2) co-starting the Salmonid Enhancement program on Vancouver Island in conjunction with DFO;

3) starting along with Jim Tang, Editor and sportswriter for the Colonist, the annual Times-Colonist fishing derby, which featured monthly prizes as well as annual prizes for several species of Vancouver Island gamefish.

Alec lived for over 60 years in his home across from Langford Lake where he had his own wharf.

I knew Alec from reading his books and first met him when I did a 2 hour video interview in the latter 1990s. From that time on Alec and I became, and I would always drop in and see him when I visited Victoria except for the last two years when Alzheimer's deprived him of his short-term memory. I felt quite at home with Alec surrounded by endless books and videotapes.

Ken

Victoria Hall-of-Fame induction video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xC09bkeHlkl>

<http://gvshof.ca/inductees-2/all-inductees/22-media/161-alec-merriman-2010.html>

Sent from my iPad



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"Aspire to Inspire before you Expire"