

## Bud McCormick Passes Away – By Ty Dilello

The first professional hockey player to come out of Dominion City passed away last week on Apr 13, at the age of 92.

Bud McCormick was born in Dominion City on Mar 15, 1930. The family moved to Winnipeg when he was eleven, where his hockey career began to take off. His talent for the sport was first brought to light when he was awarded a prize and certificate for being the most outstanding player of playground hockey at the age of 12.

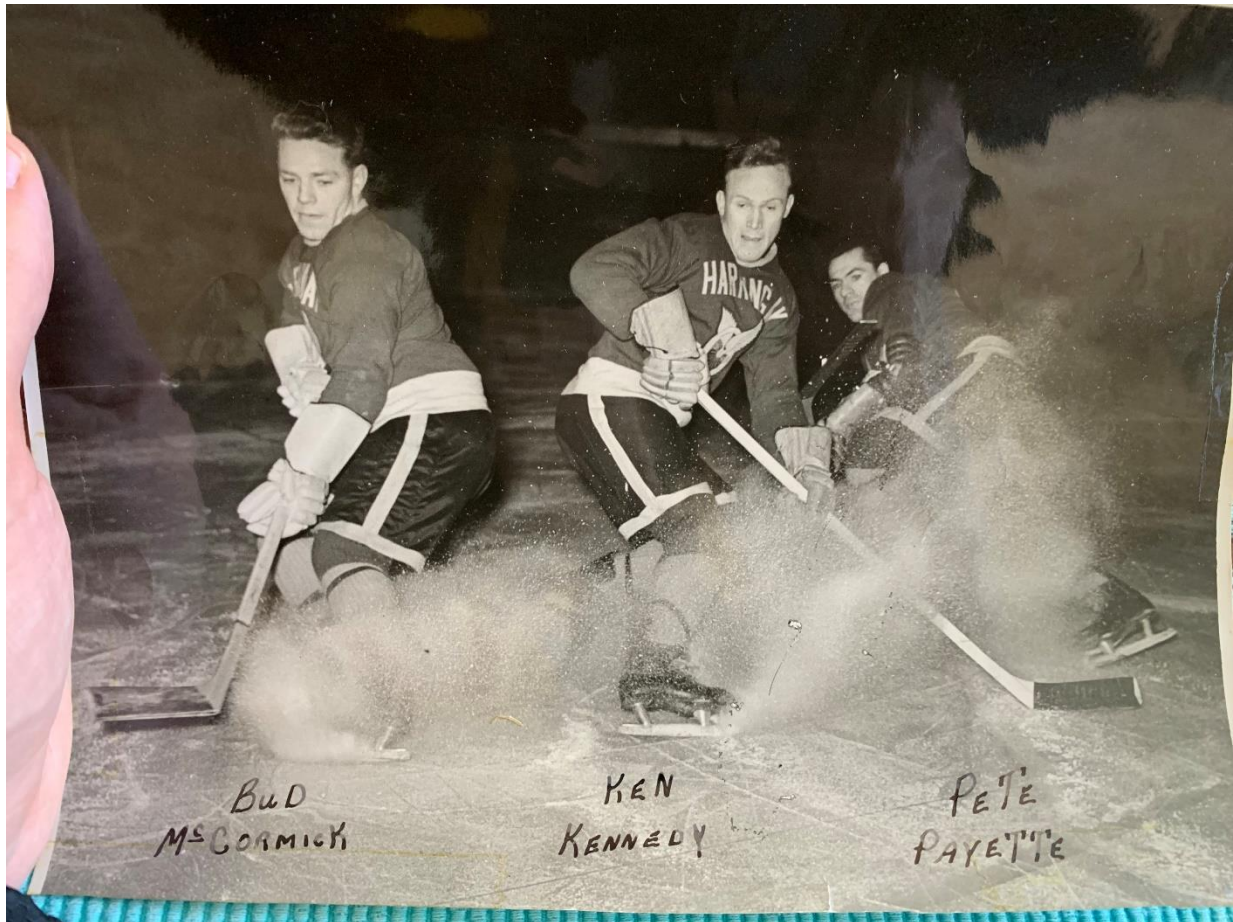


McCormick went through the rank of Bantam and Midget with Fort Rouge and was a member of the Winnipeg Canadiens Juniors for two years prior to entering the Junior ranks.

After having played two months as a member of the Winnipeg Canadiens junior team, McCormick became dissatisfied with the manner in which the club was handled. He was snatched up by the Winnipeg Black Hawks junior team and had a great two seasons with them, where he was scoring at over a point-per-game pace.

He later attended a Chicago Black Hawks NHL training camp in the fall of 1950, where he rubbed shoulders with the likes of Hockey Hall of Famers Bill Mosienko and Doug Bentley.

In 1951-52, McCormick played pro hockey in England for the Harringay Racers, where he was one of his team's leading scorers. He then returned to Winnipeg for work, while still playing hockey in southern Manitoba for the likes of the Dominion City Combines and Emerson, winning championships with both in the mid-1950s in the Provencher (Southeast) Hockey League.



Bud and his wife Diedre were married for 67 years. They had three children together and settled in the Fort Garry neighbourhood of Winnipeg, where he had a successful career in sales and marketing for Labatts Breweries for over 25 years.

He continued to coach and play hockey during this time with the Manitoba NHL Oldtimers from 1965 to 1977. McCormick is perhaps best known for then organizing and founding the Winnipeg Clubs Oldtimers hockey team.

"There were so many Oldtimers that wanted to play, but there wasn't room on the Manitoba Oldtimers team, so Bud went to Labatts and asked if they'd like to

start a team,” said Diedre McCormick. “So Labatts sponsored them, and the Winnipeg Clubs was born.”

“Dad asked Ab McDonald to be the captain,” added Bud’s son Clark McCormick. “And that helped give it more legitimacy, and then a few more guys that played in the NHL headed over. They ended up going to play over the years all over in places like Russia and Germany. It was a big thrill for a lot of retired hockey players.”

McCormick left his mark on the hockey community in Manitoba and will be greatly missed by everyone that knew him.

