

OBITUARIES

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ROBINSON, Michael Glen – 53, Debert, passed away on February 19, 2021 in Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. Born in Truro, he was a son of Betty and the late Glen Robinson. Mike will be fondly remembered by his family and friends especially by his wife and best friend, Ronita (Clattenburg); stepdaughter, Shawnadawn Clattenburg; stepson, Tristyn Clattenburg; mother, Betty Robinson; brother, Jason Robinson; his “Nanny,” Elizabeth Robinson. He was predeceased by his father, Glen Robinson; his “Papa,” Frank Robinson; grandparents, Cecil and Flossie Lawless. Mike was born in Truro and grew up in Brookfield. He loved to hunt, fish and enjoyed the outdoors especially wildlife and four wheeling. Mike had a great sense of humour and will be greatly missed by all who knew him. At Mike’s request, there will be no visitation or service. Donations may be made in Mike’s memory to assist with funeral expenses at: <https://gofund.me/2faff06b>. The family would like to send a special thank you to the staff of the Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro for their care and compassion. Arrangements entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.ColchesterCommunity.com

MackENZIE, Alan Michael – 76, Hilden, passed away suddenly at home on February 19, 2021. He was born on September 3, 1944 in Truro to the late Arthur E. and Jean (MacDonald) MacKenzie. A railroader all of his working life, Alan started at eighteen years old as a telegrapher for CN, then a brakeman that took him to many parts of the province. He eventually switched to Conductor with VIA Rail and in fact, was Canada’s last conductor, retiring in 1998. Raised on a farm on East Prince, he fulfilled his dream of owning his own hobby farm in Earlton where he raised his family. The old house would later be a well-known and photographed “abandoned house” on social media. He enjoyed beekeeping, loved baseball and hockey and called himself an amateur birdwatcher. At one point, he won awards with his old hunting dogs, “Pat”, “Mike” and “Streaker.” Content in his garden, he was most happy when his family was close. He is survived by his wife, Gail (Arsenault); daughters, Lisa Hartlen, Pleasant Valley and Lori MacKenzie, Bible Hill; stepson, Jean Paul Doiron (Korey), Onslow Mountain; stepdaughter, Jeannine Garrett (Mike), North River; grandchildren, Cash, Taylor (Logan), Amielia (Brylin), Lila, Robert and great granddaughter, Ellie; sister, Judy Daley; brother, Stephen MacKenzie; sisters-in-law, Marie Bourinot, Anne (Ken) Clements, Donna Grant; brothers-in-law, Rene Sabourin, John (Jodie) Arsenault, Kenny Arsenault and Greg (Janice) Arsenault; special nephews, Peter and Jerome Sabourin, Art Daley and nieces, Trisha and MacKenzie. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by sister, Linda Sabourin; mother and father-in-law, Leonard and Mary Arsenault; sister-in-law, Susan Arsenault; brothers-in-law, Brian Daley, Lloyd Bourinot, Alan and Darryl Arsenault. Also left to remember him are his “railway buddies” as well as many other close friends and neighbours who were always there for him. If you were Alan’s friend, you were his friend for life. If you were one of his “email friends,” you would know he was quite a storyteller. Always loved to joke, pull pranks and to laugh. He ended all his phone conversations with “I love you” and ended all his emails with “Love Me, Al, Alan, Dad, Grumpy, Sztanley.” Donations in Alan’s memory may be made to the IWK or Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. A Celebration of Life Visitation was held on February 26th in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.ColchesterCommunity.com

McKAY, John David ‘Dave’ – Age 80, of West Brook. David ‘Mr. Sunshine’ McKay, who always greeted with a handshake and a welcoming smile, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at the Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre, Upper Nappan. Born in Springhill, he was a son of the late John David and Eldora ‘Jean’ (McCormick) McKay. He is survived by his wife, Frances (Blais) McKay; daughters, Heather Desjardins (Mark Simmonds), Parrsboro; Lori Gilbert, Lakeshore; Tammy Brophy (James), Digby; sons, John David, Springhill; Mark (Shelley), West Brook; 14 grandchildren; 10 great grandchildren; sisters, Darlene Hotchkis, Halifax; Barbara Gilbert (Michael), Sackville, NB; brothers, Ralph, Springhill; Allan (Anne), Wolfville; numerous nieces and nephews. Also, his long-time family friends, Steffi and Robin Roeslen. He was predeceased by a brother, Gerald. In keeping with Dave’s wishes, a private funeral service will be held at a later time. Memorial donations may be made to a Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia. Arrangements entrusted to Smith’s Funeral Home, Parrsboro. Online condolences at www.smithsfuneralhome.com.

MARPLE, Florence Bernice – 70, Salmon River passed away, surrounded by her loving family on February 24, 2021 in Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. Born in Truro, she was a daughter of the late John Alexander and Jeanette Bernice Weatherby. Florence is survived by her daughters, Crystal (Glenn) Thompson, Salmon River; Jennifer (Edward) Shipley, Onslow Mountain; sisters, Ethel Weatherby, Debert; Doris (Tommy) MacMasters, Masstown; grandchildren, Shawn, Nickolas, Morgan, Emily, Holly, Sarah, Elizabeth, Samantha and Austin; several nieces and nephews and grandnieces and grandnephews. She was predeceased by her husband Howard Marple. Private family interment will be held in Main Road Cemetery, Debert at a later date. Arrangements have been entrusted to Mattatall – Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro. Full obituary and condolences at: www.mattatallvarnerfh.com

FLYNN, Mary Eileen – 88, Bible Hill, passed away Friday, February 26, 2021, in Vimy Court, Bible Hill. Born in Truro, she was the daughter of the late Ralph and Eileen (Russell) Ryan. She is survived by sons, John, Bible Hill, Bruce (Sharon), Onslow; daughters, Kathy Stewart (Ken, deceased), East Mountain, Pearl Hyson and Lisa Flynn, both of Valley; grandchildren, Michelle (Chad) Henderson, Nathan (Cathy), Mark, Sarah, Rebecca, Jonathon, Jasenta; great-grandchildren, Hannah, Flynn, Autumn, Kohen; niece, Dianne Parks. She was predeceased by her husband, Ralph Joe Flynn; sister, Catherine. Interment at a later date in Crossroads Cemetery, Valley. Arrangements have been entrusted to Mattatall – Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro. Full obituary and condolences at: www.mattatallvarnerfh.com

WEATHERBEY, Edward “Allen” – Age 83, Debert, passed away February 27, 2021 in Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. Born in Truro, he was the son of the late Edward and Elsie (Newell) Weatherbey. He is survived by his loving wife, Irene (Forshner); sons, Marc (Barb), Debert, Edward (Pascal), QC; daughters, Sharon (Luc) Rodrigue, Crossfields, AB, Melanie (Daniel) Siple, Wetaskwin, AB, Tanya (Douglas) Wile, Bible Hill, Alene Weatherbey, Tatamagouche, Elsie (Barry) Beal, Bible Hill; sisters, Betty Strout, Maine, USA, Joy Weatherbey, Truro; 17 grandchildren, 25 great grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren; six stepchildren as well as many nieces nephews and extended family. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his first wife, Agnes (MacNeil); sister, Louise Gilchrist and one grandson in infancy. A private viewing and funeral service will be held Friday, March 5th at 2pm in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro with Pastor Scott Penner officiating. Interment in the spring in Middle Road Cemetery, Debert. If so desired, donations in Allen’s memory may be made to the Gideons International in Canada. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting: www.ColchesterCommunity.com

ETTINGER, Reverend Jay – Age 60, Valley, NS. It is with great sadness that we share news of the passing of Reverend Jay Ettinger, age 60, of Valley, Nova Scotia on Saturday, February 27, 2021. Husband of Marty Clark-Ettinger, beloved son of Vivian and the late Claddie Ettinger, brother of Steve Ettinger, and uncle to nephews, Kendall and Heath. Jay is also survived by one aunt, three uncles and numerous cousins. Born in Montreal, Jay went on to live in the Yukon, Toronto, Los Angeles and finally settled in Nova Scotia. During his younger years, Jay was a multi-talented performer, acting in musical theatre and in movies. In Los Angeles he turned his hand to writing and directing. An accident in 1994 changed the trajectory of Jay’s life and led, in the universe’s mysterious way, to receiving a calling to ministry. But first, he faced a daunting challenge – getting his undergraduate and graduate degrees.

SMITH, William (Will) Allison - 10-21-1964 to 02-27-2021 - William had been fighting renal cell carcinoma for 9 months now and although we knew his time on earth was going to be shortened, he suffered a stroke and was taken sooner than expected. He died at home with his close friend and co-parent, Cathy and his three children surrounding him. It was how he would have wanted to go...fast, painless and with the people he loved most in this world. We take great comfort that he is in a better place and watching over us. William was raised in Oxford Junction, Nova Scotia. ‘Billy’ developed his affection for maple syrup as a young boy when he would go to the sugar woods and help his father collect maple syrup. Friends who knew Billy growing up describe him as a harmless prankster with a mischievous smile and a giggle that was contagious. Will was a beautiful singer and was singing with the Millstream Chorus for over fifteen years. Singing and music was a huge part of his life. He filled his home with music, sung to those he loved the most, that is, his three children, Connor, Cameron and Cassandra. Will will be greatly missed by his long-time friend and co-parent, Cathy and his children, Connor, Cameron and Cassandra. Their family unit will forever feel that a part of them is missing. The loss of ‘Billy’ will also be felt deeply by his family including his sisters, Cheryl, Dorothy and Cathy as well as his nieces and nephews, Mathew, Laura, Nathan, Alec, Wesley and Gregory. His childhood friend and ‘sister of the heart,’ Diane will miss him terribly. William will also be missed by his cousin, Ken, whom he spoke about right up until his final days. Ken was someone Will greatly admired and often spoke about the positive impact he had on his life. William was loved and will be mourned by his ‘in-law’ family, Fred, Marion, Karen, Pat, Rodney, Debbie, Christa, Randy and Raymond, as well as his nieces and nephews, Breanna, Georgia, Isaiah, Elijah and Maritza. It was Will’s greatest wish that his children receive a secondary education and he was overjoyed when he learned that his youngest, Cassandra and her brother, Cameron were both accepted into university for this fall. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to their education fund at cas-sandrasmithxoxo@gmail.com.

RUSHTON, Victor Franklyn – 92, Debert, passed away Tuesday, March 2, 2021, in Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. Born in Debert, he was the son of the late Roy “Burt” and Kathleen (Selwah) Rushton. He is survived by many nieces and nephews; sister-in-law, Rhoda Rushton, Truro; brother-in-law, Paul Soley, Economy. He was predeceased by sisters, Joyce Fiddes, Shirley Soley; brothers, Joseph (Joyce), Harold (Rhoda), Roy (Myrtle). Graveside funeral service will be held at a later date in Folly Village Cemetery, Glenholme. Arrangements have been entrusted to Mattatall – Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro. Full obituary and condolences at: www.mattatallvarnerfh.com

MacLEAN, Debra “Debbie” Ann – Age 65, Central Onslow. We are truly heartbroken to announce on March 3, 2021, Debbie, devoted mother, grandmother, friend and wife passed away unexpectedly in her sleep. Debbie was a daughter of the late Eugene and Elsie Mingo. She very recently lost her “Lovey,” the love of her life, her soulmate and husband of nearly 40 years, Melvin “Skip” MacLean. She was the most caring and devoted mother that we could have ever asked for to daughter, Angel (Adam) Patriquin; sons, Robert (Jacqueline) MacLean, Derek (Angie) Suttis and Paul (Penny) Suttis. Her grandchildren, her most treasured gifts in life, Keiran, Ariana, Alaina, Cavan, Madison, Trevor, Christopher, Joshua, Brandon and Bradley as well as great grandchildren, Dominic, Arthur, Cameron and Alivia. Debbie is also survived by her brother, Bryan Mingo; brother-in-law, Donald White; nephews, Jonathan (Hiromi) White, Lucas and niece, Kassie; great nephew, Austin and great niece, Lucy. Besides her parents and husband, Debbie was also predeceased by her “sissy” and very best friend, Jean White. Debbie loved to spend time swimming at the RECC, biking on the trails, having coffee with her friends and walking her “Kailea pup” and especially, the company of her grandchildren. There will be no visitation or service by request. Arrangements have been entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.ColchesterCommunity.com

SMITH, George Howard – 71, Belmont. On March 4, 2021, George motored onto his next big adventure; he was surrounded by the love of his family and in the comfort of his own home. Born in Truro, he was a son of the late George and Lauretta (Weatherbee) Smith. George is survived by his loving wife of 30 years, Rosaleen (Penney); children, Jamie Smith (Jennifer Hirtle), Debert; Lauretta Smith, Dartmouth; Dianna (Victor) McKenzie, Belmont; Jonathan (Sabrina) McGee, Crowes Mills; brother, Robert “Bobby” (Lorraine) Smith, Debert; several grandchildren, nieces and nephews. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date. Arrangements have been entrusted to Mattatall – Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro. Full obituary and condolences at: www.mattatallvarnerfh.com

BROOKS, Beulah Mary – 76, Bible Hill, passed away Thursday, March 4, 2021 in Vimy Court, Bible Hill. A celebration of life will be held at a later date with burial in Bible Hill Cemetery. For full obituary, please go to ColchesterCommunity.com

WENHAM, Terence “Terry” William – Age 75, Little Bass River, Colchester County passed away unexpectedly on Friday, March 5, 2021 at home. Born in Tenterden, England, he was a son of the late William and Dorothy (Boothby) Wenham. In May of 1968, Terry emigrated from England to Canada with his uncle’s family. He was renowned far and wide for his strawberries, “Terry’s Berries”. He loved and appreciated the outdoors and nature. Terry was a lifelong farmer and an avid fisherman. He enjoyed four wheeling and was Vice President of the Colchester Five Islands ATV Club. He was known as the voice of reason and driving force behind the club. His always present smile and humorous comebacks will be truly missed by all that knew him. There will be a gathering for family and friends at a later date. Donations may be made to the Colchester Five Islands ATV Club for “Trail Work”. Condolences to Terry’s family may be made by visiting ColchesterCommunity.com

SKIDMORE, Maisie L. – Age 87, of Parrsboro passed away suddenly on Saturday, March 6, 2021 at the Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre, Upper Nappan. Born in West Bay, she was a daughter of the late Melvin and Reta (Bennett) Williger. She was a school teacher, having taught in many schools, before returning to Parrsboro where she taught kindergarten until her retirement. She was life member of St. George’s Anglican Church, served as treasurer for the ACW, and was a long serving member of the choir. She is survived by daughters, Marylynn Goguen (Ronnie), Parrsboro; Chantel Yorke (Clinton), Parrsboro; grandchildren, Caleb, Rhianna, Hannah, Nicole, all of Halifax; sister, Judy Durning (Ted), Economy; brothers, Carl (Suzann), Parrsboro; Doug (Sharon), Back Bay, NB; Roy, Surrey, BC; numerous nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband, John; sisters, Viola, Alice; brothers, Lloyd, Trueman; also, two brothers and two sisters in infancy. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, only a private family service will be held at St. George’s Anglican Church, Parrsboro. Memorial donations may be made to St. George’s Anglican Church, Parrsboro. Arrangements entrusted to Smith’s Funeral Home, Parrsboro. Online condolences at www.smithsfuneralhome.com.

TANNER, Nelson “Leo” – Age 48, Hilden. It is with great sadness that we announce the tragic passing of Nelson Leo Tanner on March 6, 2021. He was a son of George (Charlotte) Tanner and Sheryl Lynds of Brookfield. Leo is survived by his children, Taylor, Alicia and Madison Tanner; former wife, Dawn Robertson; grandchildren, Aleah, Karter, Addison and Akeem; brothers, Duane (Karin), Hazen (Heather), Jesse (Jamie and family), Bruce (Tiffany and family); grandmother, Izetta Lynds; nieces, Mya, Samantha and Layla as well as many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends; others close to his heart, Melody Merriam, Autumn Merriam, Jayden Sylliboy, Savannah Wood and Payton Wood. He was predeceased by his son, Ryan Chapman; sisters, Tammy and Zerlina Tanner; grandmother, Dorothy Tanner; grandfather, Arthur Lynds; uncles, Johnny Tanner and Chris Tanner. Leo was an employee of Intertape Polymer for twenty-eight years. Donations in Leo’s name may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation. A visitation (by-invitation only) was held March 13th with a Memorial Service (by-invitation only) with Rev. Larry Harrison officiating in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. COVID-19 restrictions in place. Live webcasting of the service will begin at 1:58pm (Atlantic Time) and is available along with condolences at www.ColchesterCommunity.com

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