

OBITUARIES

MAIL TO: Box 41, Bass River, NS B0M 1B0 • Fax 902-647-2194 or email: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com

WEATHERBEE, Vincent Elwood "Vince" – 93, Truro, passed away on Monday, December 2, 2024 at Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. Born in Truro, Vince was a son of the late Russell and Gertrude (Burrows) Weatherbee. Vince was well-known in Truro, having established Vince's Service Station and operating it for 33 years on the corner of Young and Arthur streets in Truro, retiring in 1987. Making an impact on his community, he was a long-time member of First Baptist Church, Truro, helping in various capacities. He served in the broader community as a volunteer firefighter with the Truro Brigade and was Chief for several years. He took great pride in restoring the 1919 Pumper Truck "Nancy" which is still used in parades today. Vince is survived by his wife of 71 years, Flo, and their children, David (Kim) and Tammy (Roger). They were blessed with grandchildren, Makayla, Harrison, Chad (Wendy), Jamie; great-child, Domanic. He is also survived by siblings, Ruby McKinley, Marjorie Weatherbee and George Reid (Joan). A public graveside service will be held in the spring of 2025 at Truro Cemetery, 125 Robie Street, Truro. Arrangements have been entrusted to Mattatall – Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro. Tributes, words of comfort and memories may be shared at: www.mattatallvarnerfh.com

BISHOP, Major Rocky Robert (Retired) – 64, Upper Onslow. It is with broken hearts that we announce the passing of a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, brother-in-law, cousin and friend to many. Rocky is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 42 years, Janice (Matthews); daughter, Jillian (Chris), his favourite daughter as he would always call her; his Princess and the apple of his eye, Rosie; sister, Ena; brothers, Dennis and Arthur; sister-in-law, Norma Reynolds; nieces, Lisa (Mike), Cavell (Patrick); nephews, Michael, Timothy, Matthew, Jamie; nieces, Lisa (Mike), Cavell (Patrick); great nieces, Jaidyn, Sadie Jane, Emma; great nephews, Cody and Nolan. Rocky spent his life serving the Lord. He was a devoted and faithful officer of The Salvation Army. He loved pastoring his people and being the Shepherd of the flock. Along with his wife, Janice, they gave 79 years of faithful service. He was a gifted musician and soloist, and brought joy and comfort to many people with his musical talents during his years of ministry. Celebration of his life was held on Monday, December 16, 2024, all in The Salvation Army, Truro Corps, 14 Outram Street, Truro. Spring interment in Bible Hill Cemetery, Warren Drive, Bible Hill. Arrangements have been entrusted to Mattatall – Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro. Tributes, words of comfort and memories may be shared at: www.mattatallvarnerfh.com

MacKENZIE, Ryan Paul – Age 45, Truro, passed quietly at home on December 7, 2024. He was the son of Jane Bailey MacKenzie. He was a kind, loving son and will be greatly missed. Ryan completed grade twelve at the NSCC after which he graduated from the Barbering Program at Eastern College. He moved on to work for Jamie Ramsey for eight months cutting hair and then branched out on his own. Donations in his memory may be made to the Canadian Red Cross. There will be no visitation or service. 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.

HATFIELD, Joan Margaret (Betts) – Age 81, Truro, passed away peacefully on December 8, 2024, in Colchester East Hants Health Centre, after a short battle with cancer. Born on December 14, 1942, in Doaktown, NB, she was the daughter of the late Sterling and Mary Betts. Joan moved to Truro in 1960 to attend Success Business College. She later worked at Maritime Tel & Tel Co. until she married Harlan Hatfield, then she stayed home to raise their two daughters. She returned to work at Mack's Bakery and retired from the snack bar in Ryan's IGA in 1998. Her favourite past-times were knitting, bowling and a good game of horseshoes. Joan also loved Blue Grass music. Joan is survived by her daughter, Shelley (Dan) Kaye; her grandsons, Johnathan and Dylan; her brother, Murray Betts. Besides her parents, she was predeceased by her husband, Harlan; daughter, Wendy (Keith Arnold) and brothers, Howard, Ray and Norman. Donations in Joan's memory may be made to Canadian Diabetes Association. A graveside service will be held in the spring in Greenfield Cemetery. Arrangements have been entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro.

SHEARER, Maxine Joan (Hingley) – Age 93, Truro. We are saddened to announce the passing of Maxine Joan Shearer on December 8, 2024, in Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. Maxine was born in Kemptown, N.S. to parents, William and Susan (McCabe) Hingley and was one of sixteen children. She lived a long and fulfilling life mostly in Hilden, raising her family of six and becoming a cherished "Grammie." Mum was always noted for her organizational skills in arranging countless family get-togethers over the years, especially at Christmas and birthdays for her numerous siblings. She was a member of the Hilden United Church, the Hilden Fireside Group, taught Sunday School classes, organized and took part in many community groups for the children and teens in Hilden. Maxine is survived by sons, Steve (Connie) Shearer, Meaghers Grant, Charles "Tyke" Shearer, Truro; daughters, Aileen (Terry) Flewelling, Hilden, Lynn Shearer (Greg McFadden), Truro, Roberta "Bert" Shearer, Truro; daughter-in-law, Marion Shearer, Truro; grandchildren, Robert Shearer, Angie (Mike) Francis Julie (Chris) Higgins; great-grandchildren, Jordan, Zoe, Josie and Taylor; brother, Laurie (Carol) Hingley, Wellington; sisters-in-law, Sylvia Hingley, June Marangere, Grace Hingley, Pat Hingley, Wilma Hingley and Sylvia Anderson. She is also survived by many, many nieces and nephews. Besides her parents, she was predeceased by her husband, Charlie Shearer; son, Vince; sisters, Marjorie (Ron) Read, Aileen (Gerald) Gaudet, Bertha (Arnold Baird) (Clifford Bonnyman), Muriel (Fred) Murray, Annie (Everett) Marble and Norma (Paul) Green; brothers, Parker (Phyllis), Ernest, Earl (Ethel), Russell (Gwen), Preston (Carol), Ronnie, Flemming, and Bob. The family would like to extend their thanks for the care and compassion that Mum received from the CEHHC Palliative Care Unit and from Wynn Park Villa, where she lived for close to two years. If so desired, donations in Mum's name would be gratefully accepted to the Hilden Cemetery, Hilden United Church, VON or charity of choice. At her request, her body will be donated to Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine for medical research. A Celebration of Life was held Saturday, December 14th in the Salmon River Fire Hall. Online condolences may be made by visiting www.ColchesterCommunity.com

COLLINS, Robert Bruce - In Loving Memory of Robert Bruce Collins. It is with profound sadness we announce the passing of Robert Bruce Collins, who left us suddenly on December 9, 2024, at the age of 72, surrounded by his loving family. Rob will be lovingly remembered by his wife, Norma "Dorothy"; his daughter, Breeanne Graham and her husband, Logan, and his cherished granddaughter, Emily Collins. He also leaves behind his step-grandchildren, Trinity and Troy Graham; his sister, Terry Armstrong; his brothers, Chuck and Scott (Lisa) Collins of Alberta and many dear nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, Anne and Harold Collins of Manitoba. Born with a servant's heart, Rob dedicated over 25 years to the Canadian Armed Forces. He served with honour on peacekeeping missions in Croatia, Eritrea, Africa, and the Golan Heights and aboard HMCS *Athabaskan*, HMCS *Margaree*, and HMCS *Terra Nova*. His steadfast commitment to his country and comrades left a lasting mark on all who served alongside him. In retirement, Rob found a new mission—supporting veterans as a Service Officer and a Sergeant-at-arms with the Debert Legion. He loved exploring the trails around Debert with Luna, his loyal dog, always by his side. A man of deep compassion, he could often be found lending a hand or sharing a conversation with friends and neighbours. Rob had a knack for making life fun. His humour and lightheartedness will be missed almost as much as his kindness. The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff at the CEHHC ICU for their exceptional care and compassion during Rob's final moments. Your kindness and support meant the world to us. Rob's life was one of service, love, and connection. Though he is no longer with us, the impact he made will endure in the hearts of those who knew him. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to a Veteran's cause of your choice.

SMITH, Joan Elaine – Age 81, passed away peacefully on December 9, 2024, with her family by her side in the Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. Joan is survived by her children, Cyril (Charlotte), Cindy (Jesse) and David (Shannon); grandchildren, Mitchell (Caitlin), Jordan (Justice), Nicholas (Madison), Campbell and Christopher; her sister, Gae (Al Crossman); sister-in-law, Joan Weatherby; brother-in-law, Eric Newell (Thelma) and many nieces and nephews. Joan was predeceased by her parents, John Simpson and Emma Jarvis (Bartlett); her husband, John "Bud" Smith to whom she was married for 53 years; brothers-in-law, Robert Newell, Roy Newell, Allan Newell and Gordon Weatherby and sister-in-law, Opal Newell. Joan was a stay-at-home Mom and a farm wife for 53 years on their farm in Nuttby. The family would like to thank all of the staff of Vimy Court for taking such good care of Mom for the past two years. We will miss seeing the staff and residents that we have come to know over the years. Thank you to the doctors and nurses in the CEHHC Palliative Care Unit for your care and compassion while Mom was in your care. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the CEHHC Palliative Care Unit or the Colchester East Hants Hospice Society. Cremation has taken place. As per the family's wishes, there will be no visitation or funeral service. Arrangements have been entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS.

DOYLE, Leonard Edison - It is with great sadness that we announce the peaceful passing of Leonard Edison Doyle of Debert on December 10, 2024, in the Colchester East Hants Health Centre at the age of 85 years. Born in Truro, he was an only child to the late Lena and Ray Doyle of Westchester. Leonard was very active in civil defence, which he enjoyed immensely. Later, he was a part of the RCMP K9 division training dogs for search and rescue. He also had a great interest in radio and TV which led a job at Fundy Electric where he learned the basics of electronics and most importantly, electrical. Leonard went on to become an electrician and was involved in the industry for 65 years, loving every minute of it. Leonard loved to travel, especially to Cuba and Florida making many great memories. He enjoyed Sunday drives and walks in Victoria park. He was hard working, honest and well respected. A wonderful man, husband and father. He is survived by his daughter, Tammy (Wesley) Whidden; son, Andrew (Hyesun) Doyle and granddaughters, Grace Whidden and Nikki Doyle. In addition to his parents, Leonard was predeceased by his wife, Sheila (MacCabe) Doyle. The family would like to thank all the nurses, doctors and staff of the Colchester East Hants Health Centre for their endless efforts and care. A visitation was held Thursday, December 19th from 12pm until time of funeral service at 1pm, both in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS, Pastor Josh Fillmore officiating. Burial will take place in the spring of 2025.

BURNS, Robert "Bob" William - It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Robert "Bob" William Burns, on Friday, December 13, 2024, at his home in Bass River, NS. Bob was born on April 1, 1944, to the late Fred and Isobel (Crowe) Burns. Bob married Barbara (Rushton) in 1968. Bob was a Heavy Equipment Operator for most of his life. When not working, he could most often be found in his "shop," doing repairs, building something, fixing something or just "tinkering." Bob was the man to go to if anyone needed a car part, a piece of wood, a stick of lumber, or a tool, and if he didn't have the desired item, he would make it or make a tool to make it! He felt there was no improvement to be made to a Ford or Chev straight six engine! This served him well when it came to his love of restoring antique Ford cars of which he took great pride, especially his 1927 Ford Model T. Bob is survived by his wife, Barbara; children, Anita (Tommy) Tanner, Lornevale, Charles Burns, Bass River, Denise (John) Gilley, Bass River; grandchildren, Robbie Tanner, Jeffrey Tanner, Cody Burns, Olivia Burns, Lacey Gilley, Sophie Gilley and several great grandchildren; brother, Ross (Sharon) Burns, Bass River and uncle, Toby Beal, Five Islands. In addition to his parents, Bob was predeceased by his in-laws, Bamford and Mildred Rushton and grandson, Gregrey Tanner. Donations in Bob's memory may be made to the Bass River Heritage Museum or the Veterans Memorial Park – Bass River. A funeral service was held on Saturday, January 11th in Riverside United Church, Bass River. Minister Marty Clark-Ettinger officiating. Reception followed in church hall. Interment in Riverside United Church Cemetery.

THOMAS, Joan E. – Age 94, Brentwood, Colchester County, NS, passed away peacefully on December 15, 2024, in the Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. She is survived by her brother, Garey Brenton; daughter, Shelley (John) Reader; grandchildren, Whitney Reader, Leigh (Mike) Chambers and Dylan (Ingrid) Reader; great grandchildren, Cameron and Hailey Chambers, Moira and Lexi Reader. She was predeceased by her parents, Bert and Mary Brenton. Horses were a huge part of Joan's life from the time she was "knee high to a grasshopper." She owned and operated Thomas Horse Center for sixteen years until her retirement, where she bred, trained and showed horses as well as teaching many, many students to ride. It truly was in her blood. She built her new home in 2001 with the front porch overlooking the old homestead. It gave her joy to sit on her swing, look out and remember all the memories. Heartfelt thanks are extended to all those who helped with Joan's care. Donations in her memory may be made to the charity of choice. There will be no visitation or funeral service by request. Arrangements have been entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS.

MANTLE, Harry - It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved Harry, age 72, on Friday, December 13, 2024, in the Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro surrounded by loved ones. Born in Truro, he was the youngest of five children born to the late Ada and Stan Mantle. He was the devoted husband to the love of his life, Debbie (Trefry), with whom he celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary this past April. He was proud of his children, Sondra (Ashley), Adam (Leeann), and Nancy (Mike) and loved them with all his heart. He wanted the best for them always. He was a loving Grampie to Jack, Abigail (Alex), Ashley (Colton), and his grand-dog, Tony. Left with precious memories are sisters, Dianne, Linda and Barbara; brother-in-law, Greg (Sally) and sister-in-law, Kim, as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Besides his parents, Harry was predeceased by brother, Bill; brothers-in-law, Danny, Ross, and Brian; mother-in-law, Jackie Moody (George); father-in-law, Erven Trefry, and recently his and Debbie's beloved companion, Sparkles. Throughout his illness, the support from his loving network was clear. The many visits, phone calls, messages, and the time together meant so much to Harry, Debbie, and the whole family. Harry grew up working on the family farm, and his first paying job was as a flag boy with Latimer's Construction when the 102 Highway was being built beside the Mantle family farm. He was a dedicated member of the Truro Legion and a lifetime member of RCL Branch # 26. Harry would want us to extend gratitude to his oncologist and surgical team at the QEII, the chemo nurses and doctors at Colchester East Hants Health Centre, the Truro Palliative Care team, and Dr. Chalati, who went above and beyond in his care and concern for him. Donations in Harry's memory may be made to RCL Branch #26, Truro or Craig's Cause Pancreatic Cancer Society. A Legion Tribute was held Friday, December 20th in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. A visitation was held later 2-4pm in the Colchester Legion Lounge, Branch #26, 42 Brunswick St., Truro, NS. Harry will always be loved deeply, missed greatly and cherished forever.

ROGERS, Shirley Ann – Truro, formerly of Valley. It is with great sadness and much love that we say goodbye to my beloved mother and grandmother Shirley Ann Rogers who passed away unexpectedly with a short battle of cancer on December 18, 2024 at the age of 86 years. Born in Truro, she was a daughter of the late Millard and Dorothy (Smith) Rector. Shirley attended elementary schools in Truro and her high school years were spent at Jarvis Collegiate in Toronto; her graduate year was completed at Colchester County Academy. Further education included Normal College, Intermediate Block Program courses at Nova Scotia Teachers College and Mount Allison as well as her Bachelor of Education from Mount St. Vincent University. She was continuously upgrading and learning. Her devoted and dedicated teaching career spanned 33 years, all in Colchester County, including schools in Salmon River, Douglas Street, Willow Street, Victoria Street and the last 17 years at Bible Hill Central School. Shirley was the last surviving member of her immediate family and is survived by her son, Craig Rogers, Lower Onslow; grandchildren, Sam Rogers and Ella Rogers; daughter-in-law, Stephanie Brown Rogers; many loving nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. Along with her parents, she was predeceased by her husband Ralph; daughter, Andrea Joy; sister, Darlene LeFurgey. Funeral service was held Monday, December 30, 2024, at Brunswick Street United Church, 250 Brunswick Street, Truro. Spring interment in Watson Cemetery, 1997 East Prince Street, Salmon River. Arrangements have been entrusted to Mattatall – Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro. Tributes, words of comfort and memories may be shared at: www.mattatallvarnerfh.com

ELLS, Alfred Dale – Age 85, Truro, NS, died in the Intensive Care Unit, Colchester East Hants Health Centre, on Wednesday, December 18, 2024, following a brief illness. Dale was born May 8, 1939, in Wolfville, NS, a son of the late Floyd Allan and Margaret Adelia (West) Ells. He grew up on the family farm in Sheffield Mills. After graduating from Kings County Academy, he earned a B.Sc. in Agriculture at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC), and Macdonald College of McGill University. He became a Professional Agrologist (P. Ag.) in 1961. Dale was a Marketing Representative from 1961 to 1966 with the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Marketing, at the Agriculture Canada Research Station in Kentville. Initially, he and Marilyn MacNab were co-workers. Dale earned an M.A. in Economics from Acadia University. The family moved to Truro in 1966. For 28 years, Dale was a senior administrator at NSAC as Dean of Vocational and Technical Education. The Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists made him a Distinguished Life Member in 1999. Dalhousie University awarded him an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 2011. He was a Board Member of the Colchester Historical Society and Editor of its newsletter for many years. He is a past president of the Golden K Club of Truro and played piano at their weekly meetings for many years. Dale worked with his wife Marilyn to restore the historic MacNab Hill Cemetery, Upper Malagash NS, and to research the histories of persons and families buried there. Dale is survived by son, Cameron (Jennifer); daughter, Carolyn (Terry); brother, Glenn (Leta); sister, Kaye (Donald) Tate; sister-in-law, Marilyn and many nieces, nephews and other family members. He was predeceased by his wife, Marilyn, in August 2024 and his brother, Dennis. A memorial service and celebration of life was held in Saint Andrew's United Church, Truro on January 4, 2025 with Rev. Shannon MacLean officiating. A reception followed. Cremation has taken place. There will be a private burial at the MacNab Hill Cemetery. Donations in Dale's memory may be made to the MacNab Hill Cemetery Society, 275 King Street, Truro NS B2N 3L7; or by e-transfers through MacNabHillCemeterySociety@gmail.com or to a church or charity of your choice. Arrangements have been entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow Street, Truro. Online condolences are available at www.ColchesterCommunity.com

continued on page 17