

# OBITUARIES

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**David Leonard "Dave" Johnson** — 82, Upper Brookside. It is with great sorrow that we announce the sudden but peaceful passing of David Leonard "Dave" Johnson, just shy of his 54th "29th" birthday. Dave was born in Pleasant Valley but spent the majority of his life on Brookside Road looking after his beloved



race horses on Glenview Farm. He was very proud of his horses, especially Glenview Rhonda and Viewville Fay who won the Stanfield Memorial after having to race three heats in one day. The only thing he was more proud of than his horses was his family.

He leaves behind the center of his world and cherished wife of 61 years, Bonnie Lee Johnson (née Harris); his daughter, Dawn Johnson-McLean (Dwayne); son, Lee Johnson (Laura); daughter, Shelley Johnson-Treen (Matthew); daughter, Janet MacLeod (Bruce); grandkids, Adam Johnson, Amanda McLean (Phil), Brett Johnson, Katelyn Wheeler (Dustin), Cody Chambers (Marty), Brittany Johnson (Cole), Kelsey MacLeod (Colby), Ryan Chambers (Elizabeth), Kameron MacLeod, Emma Treen, Danika Treen, Noah Treen; great grandchildren, Brayden, Isabelle, Wesley and Stevie. He also leaves behind sisters, Mary Roy and Margie Rushton (Merle); brothers, Ralph, Jimmy (Kathleen), Mike (Monique); sisters-in-law, Kathy Scott (Dave), Charlene Johnson, Iris Johnson, Maxine Johnson; aunt, Elva Archibald; many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was predeceased by his parents, Wesley "Sam" Johnson and Delia Johnson (née Morrisey); brothers, Kenny and Lloyd; sisters-in-law, Carol Johnson and Joyce Manley; brother-in-law, Doug Roy.

Dave's passion in life was Standardbred racing. He was a part of the harness racing community his whole life, and continued to jog and train horses including the morning before he passed. Last summer was the most successful racing year in recent memory due to his efforts alongside his son, Lee, grandsons, Adam and Brett, and friend Steve Wright. He started Glenview Farms in 1983 and there have been over 40 foals to bear the Glenview name, and will be continued by his grandson, Adam. Some of his favourite memories were tracking down Viewville Fay in Pennsylvania and bringing her home for retirement, his trip across Canada with his beloved wife Bonnie, and the many camping, fishing, hockey and 4-H trips he took with his children and grandchildren. He was an avid fisherman and he loved sharing stories about the fish he caught, and somehow the fish would grow each time the story was told. He was a jack-of-all-trades and knew how to fix just about anything put in front of him, and he never backed down from a challenge.

Dad had a special vigor about living life to the fullest and he passed that down to his entire family. He had a great sense of humour and a laugh that could fill a room, so whenever he got together with his siblings, the laughter could be deafening. Despite none of us being ready for him to go, he did everything he wanted to do in his life and left no loose ends. He will live on through all of us in the decisions we make and how we view the world. There will be no funeral as per his wishes, but a celebration of life for him and Bonnie will be held after she joins him. To celebrate Dave's memory, stop by the Truro Raceway and enjoy a race in his honour.

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](http://www.mattatallvarnerfh.com)

**McDorman, George Clarence** — Age 87, Belmont, passed away on May 19, 2024, at his home in Belmont. He was predeceased by his parents, Howard and Nellie and sister, Marion. He is survived by his sister, Myrtle (David) Giffin of Halifax. George was born on a dairy farm in Debert and spent most of his life in the Debert area. He retired as a Civilian employee of DND at Camp Debert. He was a talented pianist and played at the Debert United Church for a number of years. George was also a talented cook and shared this talent with others. At his request, there will be no visitation or service. Interment at a later date. Arrangements have been entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro. Online condolences may be made by visiting [www.ColchesterCommunity.com](http://www.ColchesterCommunity.com)

**KAULBACK, Helen Roberta** - Bible Hill, NS, passed away peacefully on May 31, 2024, at the age of 95 years. Helen was born in West Devon, PEI, and was the daughter of the late Albert and Hortense Sellick. Helen started working in retail at a very young age. She later spent over 30 years of her life living in Princeport, where she took pride in her garden and flowers. Helen had so much love for her family, she enjoyed every moment, especially the family get-togethers that were full of love, laughter, and good food (she really enjoyed the sweets). Helen had a passion for gardening, knitting, quilting, and baking, and had a strong belief in the Lord. Lovingly remembered by her children, Garry (Annie, deceased), Faye, and Randy (Glady); grandchildren, Klay (Johan), Craig, Chandra, Shane (Crystal), Stephen, Janet, Chelsea (Devin), Eric (Samantha), and Ryker; great-grandchildren, Nico, Kya, Graisen, Jaden, Kris, Scott, Davin, Ewan, Keenan, Addison, Emerson, Liam, Jax, Linley, and Theodore as well as many nieces and nephews. Helen was predeceased by her husband of 62 years, Clayton; brothers, Earl and Keith; sister, Millie, and grandson, Myles. A special thank you to the wonderful staff at the Vimy Court Shannex where Helen spent the last two years receiving excellent care. Arrangements have been entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro. Online condolences may be made by visiting [www.ColchesterCommunity.com](http://www.ColchesterCommunity.com)

**HEUKSHORST, John** - It is with heavy hearts we announce the passing of our beloved father, husband, Opa, and friend, John Heukshorst. John passed away at 2:00 pm on Monday, May 20, 2024, surrounded by his loving family in the Colchester East Hants Health Centre. John was born in Lichtenvoorde, the Netherlands on August 9, 1943, and lived there until his family immigrated to Mabou Ridge, Nova Scotia in 1955, where they farmed. Once John decided to leave the family farm, he earned a Plant Science diploma from the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. John was hired by the college and worked there for 27 years as a Plant Science Technician. He planned, planted, tended and harvested the gardens as well as maintained the orchards. He often brought home "drops" and surplus vegetables so they would not go to waste. He helped the professors in the winter with labs and anything else they asked of him. John married Mary van Bommel, another Dutch immigrant, on June 5, 1971. They built a beautiful life together based on old fashioned values and hard work in Beaver Brook, just outside Truro, Nova Scotia. John kept his family fed with the big, beautiful garden and hobby farm while working at a full-time job, allowing Mary to stay at home to take care of their family. After retiring, John was not yet ready to sit still and worked for a local farmer for many years while maintaining his "homestead", tending to the animals, cutting wood, gardening and tending to all the trees and vegetation he could get his hands on. John's love for gardening cannot be explained in just a few words and he would share this with anyone and everyone. His generous spirit was shown through his creation and coordination of the Food Bank Garden for the town of Truro. John worked with the Knights of Columbus, of which he was a member, as well as the local United Church Men's group, teaching and helping these men grow large amounts of vegetables every summer. This garden provided the food bank with much needed food when supplies were low and kept it running for all the people that use the Food bank. John is survived by his wife, Mary (van Bommel); four children, Carol (Jamie) van den Hoogen, Helen (Greg) Tkacz, Robbie (Heidi), Janet (Colin) Power; nine grandchildren, Emily (Jackson) Jenkins, Marshall, Monica, Spencer, Kimberly, Adam, Jonas, Melody and Andre; nine siblings, Annie (the late Leo) Cox, Leo (Lisa), Anthony (Catherine), Hermina (Ted) van Zutphen, Maria (the late John) van Vulpen, Josephine Johnston, Louise (Murray) Smith, Regina (Arie) Schop, Rosa (the late William) van den Hoogen; sister-in-law, Netta, as well as numerous nieces and nephews, cousins and their children. John was predeceased by his parents, Johanna (Broshuis) and Fredericus; brother, Hank (Netta); brothers-in-law, William (Rosa) van den Hoogen, Leo (Annie) Cox, John (Maria) van Vulpen, Peter van Bommel, and sister-in-law, Verna van Bommel. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hope Not Hunger, Truro. Visitation was held on Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm and 6-8pm in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. A Funeral Mass took place on Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> in the Immaculate Conception Church, 669 Prince St., Truro, Father Jim O'Connor officiating. Reception followed in Campbell Hall. Burial followed in the Immaculate Conception Cemetery, Robie St., Truro.

**SLAUNWHITE-SIBLEY, Joshua Marshall** — Age 29, Bible Hill. The family of Joshua Marshall Slaunwhite-Sibley are saddened to announce his passing on May 24, 2024, in Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. He was born on April 2, 1995, in Halifax. He is survived by his mom, Kelly Sibley-Norman; father, Melvin Norman; grandparents, Shirley Sibley (Truro), Don and Lisa Slaunwhite, (Halifax), Shirley Delaney, (St. John's, NL) and Melvin Sr. and Jean Norman, (St. John's, NL); step-brothers, Zachary and Mitchell Norman; half-sister, Madison Slaunwhite; half-brother, Keilin Slaunwhite; honorary sister, Laura Pluigers as well as many aunts, uncles, cousins and nieces. He was predeceased by Robert Sibley, whom he affectionately called, "Grampy Bob." Joshua had a great love for his family and friends and for his "boys," Charlie and Ben. He was very strong and courageous while dealing with his health issues over the past six years. He was a true "Gastroparesis Warrior." As many learned quickly, there was no winning an argument with Josh. He always had to have the last word. He also took great joy in playing practical jokes and being a prankster. Josh worked at any jobs that would come his way from plowing snow and lawn maintenance to collecting pop bottles. His greatest passion was anything with wheels. He was the master of trading-up from Jeeps to Camaros to fancy trucks. His final trade was the biggest, "from Wheels to Wings." The family would like to thank Dr. Wells, the CEHHC Palliative Care team and the staff of the CEHHC Medical Day Unit. In lieu of flowers, donations in Josh's memory may be made to the SPCA. A funeral service was held Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 p.m. in Turning Point Church, 20 Curtis Drive, Truro with Pastor Luke officiating. A gathering will followed.

**PATTERSON, Ronald W.** — Age 77, Hilden. It is with saddened hearts that we announce the passing of Ron Patterson at home on May 26, 2024. He was the eldest son of the late Ralph and Myrtle Patterson. He is survived by his wife, Sylvia; sons, Jeffery (Carla), Scott (Jenalee); stepdaughter, Angela Smith (Lou); grandchildren, Charlee, Violet, Emily, Megan; great grandchild, Jaylen; brothers, Dave (Carol), Garry (Judy) and niece, Lindsay Mitton (Brett & Avery). Besides his parents, he was predeceased by brothers, James and Kenneth and stepdaughter, Tanya Broome. Ron was an avid sports fan, he especially loved to coach his sons in baseball. Having four granddaughters, he was known to attend many recitals, performances and 4-H events over the years. Ron's interests were bowling, golfing, gardening and watching all sports on TV. Much enjoyed were his card and games day at the church hall and the potluck get-togethers. Family and friends meant everything to Ron. He liked travelling and had a number of treasured trips. He worked in retail and ended his career as a courier with MBW. Ron was a member of the Hilden Church Choirs as well as church trustee. The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to VON and Palliative Care for helping manage Ron's illness over the past year and a half. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hilden Cemetery, Hilden United Church or VON. Cremation has taken place. A funeral service was held on Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 11am in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, with Rev. Phillip Kennedy officiating. Interment in Hilden Cemetery followed the service and reception. Online condolences may be made by visiting [www.ColchesterCommunity.com](http://www.ColchesterCommunity.com)

**DUGUAY, Charles Edward** It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of our dear Dad, Grampie, and beloved husband, Charles Edward Duguay, at the age of 82 years. He passed away peacefully on May 31, 2024, surrounded by his cherished wife, Garnetta, and his treasured family in the caring hands of ICU and Palliative Care staff of the Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. Charles was the son of the late Frank and Ena (Pettigrew) and was predeceased by his sister, Joyce. He will be deeply missed by his devoted wife of 62 years, Garnetta; his sons, Randy (Jackie) and Kevin (Terry-Lynn); his grandchildren, Brandon, Jessica (Doug), and Jocelyn (Cody) and his five great-grandchildren, Jorja, Daniel, Jackson, Carter, and Kevie, all of whom he adored. Born in Parrsboro on February 6, 1942, Charles' family soon moved to Belmont, where he would later raise his own loving family. At the age of fifteen, he began his working life as a short order cook at The White Spot in Truro. Upon turning sixteen, he joined Stanfield's Ltd. as a mechanic and eventually rose to management, where he remained until his retirement 44 years later. Charles enjoyed the outdoors, especially hunting and fishing, and had plenty of captivating stories to share. His storytelling and infectious, light-hearted laugh always uplifted those around him. He loved spending time at the family cottage in Sutherland Lake, enjoying four-wheeling, camping, and family gatherings. Remarkably, he once survived being hit by a train while four-wheeling. Charles and his lifelong partner, Garnetta, shared a love for music, attending many joyous dances and parties over the years. Known for his friendliness and hospitality, their door was always open. During his early years, he enjoyed playing sports and later coached Randy and Kevin in hockey. Donations in Charles' memory may be made to the CEHHC "We Care About Cancer" fund (<https://www.cehhcfoundation.ca/honour-memory>) online, at the CEHHC Foundation office, 600 Abenaki Rd., Truro or at Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. Cremation has taken place. In honour of Charles' wishes, his ashes were laid to rest at a private graveside service on Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at 3pm in Belmont Cemetery. All family members and relatives of Charles and Garnetta are welcome.

**WOOD, Joseph Daniel** - We, the family of Joseph Daniel Wood, age 23 years, of Five Houses are devastated to announce his sudden passing on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, in the Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. Joseph is survived by his parents, Barbara and Marc Weatherbey; his biggest fan — his little brother, Benjamin; stepbrother, Joshua Weatherbey (Liam Gribbon); grandparents, Daniel and Susan MacDougall; aunt, JoAnn Dickie (Mike); uncle, Daniel MacDougall (Nancy) and cousins, Jessica Dickie, Rachael Dickie and Mya MacDougall. Joseph is also survived by his friends — his chosen family, who were so important to him and who supported and uplifted him at every stage of his life, Daniel Loughead, Noah Nisar, Adam Nisar, Ryan Rankin, Liam Roode, Hayden Hardlow, Paul Chang, Jordan Burns, Cameron O'Brien, Jay Mosher, Taryn Gould, Steven Jackson, Luke Verbeck, Chris Joudrey, among others who formed his core group of friends. He was loved by so many. Joseph was an avid sports fan. He loved the Boston Bruins, the Oilers and the Celtics. He spent many fun hours playing ball hockey with his brother and gaming online. Although Joseph's life had many challenges, he never let his disability define who he was as a person. He was kind, loving, compassionate, so funny, sarcastic and witty. He never let an opportunity pass to make a little joke to make you laugh. No one could make his Mom laugh as hard as he could. Especially in the Tim Horton's drive through right before getting to the window, then ribbing with a sarcastic, "Get it together, Mom." Joseph also loved to cook and experiment in the kitchen. A favorite pastime of his was to go thrifting which resulted in a very extensive t-shirt collection. In May of 2024, Joseph graduated from Saint Mary's University with a Degree in Commerce. He had many great times living in Halifax and expressed often being grateful for the experience and the support that he received there. Although Joseph's time here was far too short, we can take some comfort in knowing that his life was full. It was full of love, for his family and friends, and in his last days he was surrounded by so much love it was staggering to witness. We will be forever grateful for the support he received during that time. Joseph was predeceased by his great grandparents, Helen and Edward Mingo, and Alexander and Anne MacDougall, and by his childhood dog of fourteen years, Hunter. We know they were all there to meet him and wait with him until we are all together again. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Nurses and doctors of the CEHHC ICU and Emergency departments. Especially Nurses Hannah, Faith and Penny and Jonathan from Respiratory who treated Joseph, and us, with such care and respect. Donations in Joseph's memory may be made to the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada. In honor of Joseph's wishes, there will be no visitation. Cremation has taken place. A private family celebration of life will be held at a later date. We would like to encourage those that loved him to gather to honor him in whatever way feels right to you.

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