

# OBITUARIES

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**MEYER,** Cornelia Francina — Age 65, Shubenacadie, passed April 9, 2023, in Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro, NS. No visitation or service. Arrangements entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. Online condolences at [www.ColchesterCommunity.com](http://www.ColchesterCommunity.com)

**SIMMS,** Eric William of Spencer's Island, Nova Scotia passed away on April 15, 2023, at the age of 76, with family by his side. Eric was born in Truro on October 26, 1946, to the late John William Simms, of Fogo Island, N.L. and Rhoda Hattie MacGillvary, of Spencer's Island. Eric lost his father at the age of nine and later moved from Bedford to Truro with his mother and four siblings. He joined the military at a young age and served 20 years as Military Police, stationed in Alberta, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland. Upon retirement from the military, Eric worked in RCMP Telecommunications for 25 years. Eric met Lynn in Edmonton and the two married in 1978. They settled in Princeport, where they lived for over 30 years. Together with Lynn, Eric bred and showed Newfoundland dogs for twelve years and opened their home as foster parents for 20 years. He volunteered as President of South Colchester Minor Hockey for seven years and spent many hours at the hockey rink watching his sons and grandchildren play. Eric loved family fishing adventures, boating, camping, gardening, and all animals - from ducks to dogs. He had a talent for building and was keen to help with any project that his boys had on the go. Above all, Eric loved his family and he adored his grandchildren. Family dinners were cherished times, filled with delicious dishes and home-baked treats made by him with love. In retirement, Eric and Lynn moved to Spencer's Island and spent summers on the beach at Old Shipyard Beach Campground where he continued to share his smile and sense of humour with all who met him. He was an outstanding man, and he will be missed immensely. Eric was predeceased by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Lynn; sons, Laurie (Pam), Nick (Veronica), Jeff (Grace), Ben (Allie), and Larry (Heidi); grandchildren and great-grandchildren; siblings, Marney Allen, Jeanne (Gerry) Mills, Edwin (Barb) Simms, Dale (JoAnn) Simms; nephews and nieces and those who found respite in his heart and home. Many thanks to family and friends who have been by Eric's side during his lengthy battle with cancer. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Colchester East Hants Health Centre Foundation or the Federation of Foster Families of Nova Scotia. A Celebration of Life was held in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. Committal will take place at a later date in Allenville, NS.

**SIMON,** Lana Darlene McLeod, August 30, 1962 - April 17, 2023 - We are very sorry to announce the passing of Lana McLeod Simon, at the age of 60 years. She passed peacefully in the morning hours of Monday, April 17, 2023, in the Colchester East Hants Health Center, after a long battle with cancer. Lana was born on August 30, 1962, to the late Jim McLeod of Ontario, and the late Zena Tattrie of Westville. She lived her early years in Truro working at many of the local bars, such as the Engine Room and Scotland Yard. She was a homemaker for many years and was a very caring and loving mother. Lana enjoyed 4x4 racing, old cars and trucks, motorcycles, music, dancing and especially spending time with her son, Robert, and her grandsons, Caleb and Logan. She loved plants and flowers and spending time outdoors. She loved to attend music festivals and concerts, and spending time with her friends. She loved old movies and TV shows, and especially enjoyed books and reading. Lana was preceded in death by her parents, Jim McLeod and Zena (Tattrie). She is survived by her son, Robert and his father, Rick Simon; her daughter-in-law, Tamara (MacPhee); her grandsons, Caleb and Logan Simon, as well as her many friends, especially Lynn and Luke. We would like to thank the wonderful palliative care doctors and nurses in the Colchester East Hants Health Centre who provided Lana with exceptional care in her final weeks and days. We thank you all from the bottom of our hearts. A celebration of Lana's life was held at the family home in Hilden, on Friday, April 21, 2023.

**BATES,** Margaret — Age 101, Truro, passed away peacefully on April 21, 2023, in Willow Lodge, Tatamagouche surrounded by her loving family. Born on July 8, 1921, she was a daughter of the late George and Alice (Sutherland) MacKay. Mom grew up on the family farm at The Falls with her four brothers and four sisters. She moved to Truro and married our Dad, Jim Bates, in 1941. She worked for many years at Stanfield's while raising her seven daughters. Mom was a dedicated and loving wife and mother. She especially enjoyed family gatherings. She also enjoyed travelling with Dad and spending winters in Florida during her retirement. Mom will always be remembered for her homemade bread, baked beans, sugar cookies and her strong sense of independence. She was a member of the Ladies Auxiliary Legion Branch #26 as well as a member of the First United Church in Truro. She leaves behind her daughters, Shirley Thomas, Diane Kennedy, Linda MacKinnon, Joan Matheson, Mary MacKay (David) and Heather Bates (Gerard); grandsons, Donald Thomas (Debra), Todd Kennedy (Laura), Jamie MacKinnon, Jeffrey Terfry (Rylee) and Patrick Terfry (Lindsey); granddaughters, Kim Dowling (Jim), Tammy Kennedy-Fortune (Mark), Jody Matheson, Melanie Casey (Shawn), Christina Wylie (Adam) and Sherri Pugsley (David); sister, Norma Normand; thirteen great grandchildren and one great, great grandchild. Mom was predeceased by her husband, Jim; her infant daughter, Shelley; son-in-law, Gordon Kennedy; great grandson, Kyle Dowling; brothers, Daniel, Archie, Kenny and Peter and sisters, Lillian Whidden, Florence Greenwood and Isabel MacDonald. Special thanks to Willow Lodge for the exceptional loving care given to our Mom. We are forever grateful. As per Mom's wishes, there will be a private family graveside service. Arrangements have been entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. Online condolences are available at [www.ColchesterCommunity.com](http://www.ColchesterCommunity.com)

**LAWRENCE,** Robert “Bob” Lorne — Age 64, Lower Sackville. With great sadness, we announce the sudden passing of our son and brother, Robert “Bob”. Leaving to mourn are his parents, Fred and Catherine Lawrence, Halifax; sisters, Jo-Anne Embree, Halifax, Pattiesue Simsons (Gunars), Kitchener, Ontario, Debbie Lawrence (David Flagel), Bible Hill, and Trudy Lawrence, Truro; five nieces and nephews, Christine, Catherine, Jessica, Robert, and Rachel; and eight grand nieces and nephews, Sterling, Bailey, Jezika, Lana, Cheyenne, Odyn, Lexi, and Evelyn. He was predeceased by infant brother, Terence and brothers-in-law, Gary Kuepfer and John Embree. Bob was born in Port-Aux-Basques, NL, and grew up on the east coast of the province in Shoe Cove. After graduating high school, he served in the Canadian Armed Forces for thirteen years, including tours in Germany and Cyprus. When he returned to Canada, he settled in Lower Sackville, NS. He obtained a diploma in IT, which set him on his entrepreneurial journey. Through his company, Cosmic Computers, he provided support services for clients right up to the time of his passing. He was a member of the Atlantic Steel Guitar Club and enjoyed jamming with local musicians. Besides music, Bob was a licensed Amateur Radio Operator, with the call sign VE1RLL. From the time he was a young boy, he loved hockey. Bob took advantage of every opportunity to cheer Sidney Crosby and Nathan MacKinnon. He would banter back and forth via text messaging with his mom during the Toronto Maple Leafs' games. Bob will most certainly be remembered for his unique sense of humour. He was never without a corny joke or two and laughed harder at himself than anyone else in the room. For us, he is gone way too soon and it gives us solace to remember the proverb: “Say not in grief, he is no more, but live in thankfulness that he was.” As the country artist, Vince Gill wrote: “Go rest high on that mountain Son. Your work on earth is done.” Memorial donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation in honour of Bob Lawrence. Cremation has taken place under the care and direction of the Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. A private celebration of life will be held at a later date. Tributes, words of comfort and memories of Bob may be shared with the family at [www.ColchesterCommunity.com](http://www.ColchesterCommunity.com)

**PRIEST,** Wayne Courtenay - It is with heartfelt sadness that we announce the passing on May 12, 2023. Wayne was born in Diligent River, Cumberland County, on March 17, 1944, but he resided most of his life in Belmont, Colchester County. He was a devoted child of God, husband, father, Bumpa (grandfather and great grandfather), and friend. He is survived by his loving wife of nearly sixty years, Valerie Ann (Nichols) Priest; his children Connie (Andy) Bokma, Amanda (Kevin MacDonald) Priest, and Matthew (Gena) Priest; his grandchildren from Connie: Laura (James) Miedema, Julia (Doug) Wiens (Dryden and Bennett), Jordan (Kendra) Bokma (Finley), and Alex Bokma; from Amanda: Bijoux (Justin) Martell (Jasper); from Matt: Michaela Priest (Cameron Graham), and Mallory Priest. Wayne had a special bond with his brother-in-law Gordon (Marg) Nichols and always considered him his brother and best friend. Wayne leaves behind numerous beloved nieces and nephews. He was also survived by a multitude of cousins, and he claimed them all! He was the fourth of six boys; Eldon, Carmen, Arlie, Gary (all deceased), and Fred. Sadly, Bumpa was predeceased by his great grandson Malachi Wiens and his unborn great grandchildren Zion, Jett, and Wren. Wayne was an industrious man who worked a variety of jobs but most notably at Crossley Karastan Carpet Mills, his own Log & Pulp Company and Woods Camp via Scott Paper Industries, and with his business partner and good friend Mike Merkle, and son, Matthew, their company Northern Lights Christmas Tree Farms. Wayne was a big tease. His beautiful blue eyes often had a sparkle of mischief, and his smile was as infectious as his love for flounder fishing at Spencer's Island. He loved classic cars, genealogy, and coin collecting. Wayne enjoyed playing various musical instruments, singing around the campfire, and was well known for his embellished storytelling. He was a very friendly soul who always did his best to make everyone feel welcome, from the tiniest child to the oldest in the room. His big heart will be dearly missed by us all. Our family is deeply grateful to the staff at the Debert Court Shannex for their professional and compassionate care of Wayne/Dad. They have been a true blessing. A Celebration Service of Wayne's life took place at Faith Baptist Church in Great Village on Thursday, May 18, Pastor Steve Adams officiating. Visitation was at 1pm, funeral service began at 2:00pm, with reception to follow. Private family burial later in the day. Donations may be made in Wayne's memory to the Casa Hogar Children's Home of Honduras, under the Auspices of Faith Baptist Church; the Alzheimer's Society of Nova Scotia; or a charity of your choice. Arrangements are under the care of Colchester Community Funeral Home; 512 Willow Street, Truro. On-line condolences may be sent to the family by visiting: [www.ColchesterCommunity.com](http://www.ColchesterCommunity.com)

**WEATHERBEE,** Stuart Leon — Age 70 - It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our courageous and kind-hearted, coffee-loving husband, Dad, and Grampy. Stuart spent most of his youth in Wentworth, NS, riding his motorcycle and sometimes getting into trouble. He also loved camping, gardening, and enjoying the outdoors. He worked at Intertape Polymer for 38 years before his retirement. Stuart could usually be found with a mug of Tim Horton's coffee in the morning, afternoon, or evening while socializing and people watching. He loved four-wheeling with his wife, Blesilda, and going for long drives with no particular destination - but with lots of coffee! In the springtime, Stuart could be found in his sugar-shack boiling maple syrup, the memories taking him back to his childhood. He adored and loved all his grandchildren very much, always enjoying their sleepovers and visits where all shared a common interest in four-wheeling and trucks. Stuart loved listening to live music and dancing, trying to teach us all to two-step, and if you were lucky enough to meet Stuart, you might have been on the receiving end of his humorous or smart remarks; he really enjoyed a bit of good-natured teasing. Stuart was also very loved by his extended Filipino family, and was known as Ninong, Kuya, and Tito Payat. We would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to the home palliative team, the VON, and E2 and the Palliative care staff at Colchester East Hants Health Centre. Stuart is survived by his loving wife of eleven years, Besilda Weatherbee; his daughters, Cathy (Wade) Parker, Bible Hill; Tammy Hughes (Brandon Gill), Salmon River; Crystal (Josh) Stokdijk, Middle Stewiacke; step-daughter, Shawna (Scott) Morrel and family; grandchildren, Logan, Kyle, Summer, Wyatt, Emmet, Willa-Marie, Rhett, Chad, Lindsay and Mason; sister, Ann Letourneau, Windsor, Ontario; brother Charles (Susan) Weatherbee, Amherst as well as many nieces and nephews. Stuart was predeceased by his parents Sheldon and Muriel Weatherbee and his first wife Shawna. Donations in Stuart's memory may be made to the Colchester East Hants Hospice Society. A visitation was held May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 1-2pm followed by a funeral service at 2pm, both in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. Reception followed. Burial in Hilden Cemetery. Online condolences at [www.ColchesterCommunity.com](http://www.ColchesterCommunity.com)

**McLeary, Merrill Colin** - Age 90 years. It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden passing of Merrill Colin McLeary, known to many as “Mo,” on May 17, 2023, in Truro, Nova Scotia. Born on September 22, 1932, the third son of the late Blanche Lavina (Leet) McLeary and Bertram Noble McLeary of Belmont, Nova Scotia. Merrill was raised in Wentworth and from a young age, worked in the Cumberland County woodlands with his father. He continued to work hard everywhere the Good Lord slowed his feet long enough to settle. Merrill is survived by his soulmate and wife of 70 years, Leone Gertrude (Carey) McLeary and their six children, Merrill and Shawn of Ontario, Colin of Alberta, and Leland, Linda and Patricia of Nova Scotia. He is also survived by his older sisters, Rhoda and Carol. He will be lovingly remembered by his 20 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild, Rosie. He was predeceased by his brothers, Bertram Jr. and Warren and his eldest sister, Delta. Merrill loved the Lord with all his heart and was awoken one night with a blessing straight from Him. Those blessed enough to have their paths brought to cross Merrill's would have been left with this in their souls... *“Soar like an eagle, hover like dove, and live in God's agape love, Shalom” - Merrill McLeary* A visitation was held Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> from 1-2pm. Funeral service followed at 2pm in the Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow Street, Truro, NS.

**LYNDS,** Fulton Leo, Age 63, Brookfield, passed away on May 19, 2023, after a lengthy illness from a stroke. He was the son of the late Carl and Eldora (Atkinson) Lynds. Fulton attended vocational school where he became a bricklayer then enjoyed working at hardware stores over the years. He took pride in coaching baseball in Brookfield and being a Scout Leader. Memories were made on yearly fishing trips to places like Liscombe Lodge and Keji. Fulton is survived by his daughter, Hillary Lynds (Jake Smyth); sons, Quinn Lynds and Todd Lynds, North River; wife, Krista Lynds, North River; sister, Cindy, Brookfield; and granddaughter, Kylee Smyth. Besides his parents, Fulton was predeceased by brother, Timothy, and sister, Carline. The family would like to thank the caring staff at Shiretown Nursing Home, Pictou for looking after Dad in his last year. A graveside service was held Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup> in Brookfield Westside Cemetery, with Rev. Larry Harrison officiating, followed by a time of fellowship with Fulton's family and friends, location was provided at the service. Arrangements are under the care of Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow Street, Truro, NS. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting [www.ColchesterCommunity.com](http://www.ColchesterCommunity.com)

**LYNDS,** Russell Leroy Lynds, — 88, Salmon River, formerly of Belmont. With extreme sadness we announce that our beloved father, grandfather, father-in-law, brother, uncle, son and friend, passed away on Saturday, May 20, 2023, at Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro, surrounded by family. Dad is survived by his forever loyal and loving only child, Jan (Lynds) Parker; faithful son-in-law, Gordie Parker; cherished and beloved granddaughter always, Tanya Parker (Chad McClellan) and six months ago he was truly blessed with the birth of his only great grandson, Renley Gordon McClellan, a true joy, who he loved so much; he adored and checked on Renley every day since his birth. The days Dad did not get to see Renley in person, he always wanted to see the pictures and videos that our daughter would send. Russell is also survived by many nieces and nephews. We would like to acknowledge and thank Dad's companion, Barb Dill; your care, compassion and friendship shown to my father for the last 12 years was absolutely wonderful. Dad is also survived by his brother, Kenny Lynds (Shirley) and many International grandchildren from Germany, Brazil, South Korea, Columbia, Mexico and Italy over a 13 year period. Along with his parents, Edward and Ruby (Bruce) Lynds, Dad was predeceased by his wife, Avis (Staples) Lynds; brother, Bruce Lynds (Eileen Lynds); parents-in-law, Alma and Arnold Staples. Arrangements have been entrusted to Mattatall — Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro, where the funeral service was held Monday, May 29, 2023. Family interment was held at Belmont (Crossroads) Cemetery. If so desired, donations in Russell's memory to Dalhousie Urban Garden Society are welcomed. Full obituary and condolences at: [www.mattatallvarnerfh.com](http://www.mattatallvarnerfh.com)

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