

OBITUARIES

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

Continued from page 14

FRASER, Ralph Graham - It is with deep sadness that we share the passing of Ralph Graham Fraser, on May 10, 2026, in the Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. The baby of the family, he was **Fulton**, predeceased by his parents, Ralph and Mary Fraser and siblings, Helen, James, Gordon and sister-in-law, Joyce, Nina and brother-in-law, George Mulholland, and Mary Anne and brother-in-law, Buddy Peet. Born on January 19, 1939 in Pictou, NS, Graham had to quickly learn about the world after the loss of his father at age fifteen. He went to work to help provide for the family and carried this work ethic and support for his own family for the rest of his life. He spent the bulk of his career in the water transportation industry first in PEI and then as a terminal operations manager for Halterm Ltd. and Ceres Halifax Inc., in Halifax. In 1967, Graham married his soulmate, Mary Jane (Ripley), whom he met while bowling in Pictou and fell deeply in love. From Pictou they moved to PEI, Dartmouth and then settled in Lower Sackville for 23 years where they raised Lori Lee (Brian) and Randy (Kathy). He and Mary Jane moved to Amherst where they owned Moss Jewellers for twelve years before retiring to their favorite place, Bayhead, until 2020. Graham loved watching sports, but he was also an avid basketball player, bowler, and dart player. His basketball team was inducted into the Pictou County Sports Hall of Fame. He also loved a good card game and seemed to often be on the winning side of things – or at least that's what it felt like. The family extends their heartfelt thanks to the Colchester East Hants Health Centre, and especially to his care team on the third floor, D wing medical unit who went above and beyond to provide care, comfort and support to him and our family. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Soul's Harbour Rescue Mission or a charity of your choice. Cremation has taken place. We held a gathering to celebrate Graham's life in Colchester Community Funeral Home, located at 512 Willow Street, Truro, Wednesday, May 20th from 2–4 p.m.

FULTON, David Harlan - We are heartbroken to announce that our father, **David Harlan Fulton**, passed away at the age of 77 years while beekeeping on his property in Bass River this Spring. He was predeceased by his parents, Harlan and Lorna Fulton, and his sister, Carol Barkhouse. He is survived by his partner, Linda McBurnie; his children, Jay, Krista, Lisa, Casey and Danielle Fulton; stepsons, Mark Campbell and Leslie Spears, and many grandchildren. His generosity, resilience, and sense of humour left a lasting impression on us and everyone who knew him. While our father had an incredible work-ethic, what he truly dedicated his life to was helping others. He was always willing to lend a hand, offer advice, or simply lend an ear. He spoke to every person with sincerity, making them feel like the most important person in the world in that moment. He was a lover. Dad will probably be remembered for his exploits nearly as much as for his virtues. He led an adventurous life and had a talent for turning everyday tasks into unbelievable stories. We take comfort in knowing he left the world in that same fashion: living on his terms, doing something he loved, on his feet, on a sunny day. Figuratively, you could say he was allergic to boredom, while in a much more literal sense he was allergic to bees. Donations to the Victoria Hall and Bass River Fire Department are welcome. A service was held on Saturday, May 16th at 3pm in Riverside Church in Bass River. Reception to follow. We have no doubt attendees will be treated to decades' worth of great stories during the social hour. It is our hope that family and community bonds will strengthen as we come together to remember the joy he brought to so many people.

COPAGE, Gary "Bucky" - 1967-2026 - It is with mixed emotions that we announce the sudden passing of Gary "Bucky" Copage at the age of 59 years, who is finally at peace and free from suffering. Gary passed away at home on May 14, 2026. Born on June 9, 1967 in Truro, he was the grandson of the late Peter and Margaret Copage who had raised him as a child. Gary leaves to mourn his very close friends, Heather with whom he lived and was his caregiver, Courtney, Shauna, Ron, Mike and his very special buddy, Carson whom he thought the world of as well as his family and friends who knew him. A special heartfelt thank you to Dr. Aleksis who was his family doctor, Dr. Offman, Dr. McNeil of the cancer unit in Halifax as well as palliative care team. Cremation has taken place under the direction of Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS from where a funeral service will be held on Friday, May 29th from 1-3pm.

JOHNSON, Wade A. - Age 61, of Alton, passed away peacefully on May 14, 2026, at home surrounded by his family. After a long and difficult battle with lung disease, he is finally at peace. Wade dedicated over 25 years of service to Northeast Nutrition, where he formed many lasting friendships and was respected by colleagues for his strong work ethic and steady presence. He was predeceased by his loving wife of 22 years, Carolyn; his mother, Madge Johnson; father, Herbert Johnson and his brother, Daton Johnson. Wade leaves behind his loving daughter, Jennifer Henry-Higgins (Glen); his two grandsons, Gage and Devon MacBurnie, whom he proudly helped raise and who brought him immense joy; his estranged son, Colby Jollimore; his brothers, Brian Johnson and Carter Johnson (Christine) along with many extended family members and friends. A special heartfelt thank you is extended to his nephew, Brett Johnson, who was a constant source of support and companionship throughout Wade's illness. Wade will be remembered for his ribald sense of humour and his stubborn streak. He faced life and his illness with determination, honesty and an unapologetic sense of "like it or lump it." Those who knew him, will recognize that description as truly him. He will be deeply missed. A funeral service was Tuesday, May 19th at 2pm in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. Rev. Larry Harrison officiated.

STEVENS, Arlene - It is with mixed emotions that we announce the passing of Arlene Stevens, who is finally at peace and free from suffering. Arlene passed away peacefully on May 16, 2026, in Elk Court in Brookfield. Born on July 26, 1954, in the Aberdeen Hospital in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, Arlene was the daughter of Joyce Smeltzer and the late Raymond Smeltzer. A graduate of Cobequid Educational Centre (CEC), Arlene was a beloved waitress for more than 25 years. Her warm smile and welcoming nature were familiar to patrons at several local restaurants over the years, including Murphy's, the Stonehouse, and the Big Stop. Guided by her generous spirit, she also devoted many years to the Salvation Army Family Service Food Bank, helping ensure those in her community were cared for. If you knew Arlene, you knew her love of butterflies. To her, they symbolized the beauty that can emerge through struggle, transformation, and perseverance. Her greatest comfort, steadfast support, and true anchor was her beloved husband, Mal. She cherished the simple joy of hitting the road and riding along in the truck with him. She is survived by her loving husband, Balcolm (Malcolm) Stevens; her children, Ken Smeltzer (Glenholme, NS), Derek Stevens (Highland Village, NS), and Tara Stevens Long (Riverview, NB); her mother, Joyce Smeltzer (Debert, NS); and her siblings, Leianne Shearer (Dryden, ON), Ray Smeltzer (Greenfield, NS), Monte Smeltzer (Springville, NS), Wally Smeltzer (Westville, NS), George Smeltzer (Bridgeville, NS), Lorne Smeltzer (Eastville, NS), and Glenn Smeltzer (Bridgeville, NS). She also leaves behind her cherished grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren that will never have the opportunity to know her. Arlene was predeceased by her father, Raymond Smeltzer; her brother-in-law, James Shearer; her grandparents, Walter and Thelma Smeltzer, and James and Edna Himmelman; her uncle, James Himmelman; and her aunts, Joan and Janet. The family extends heartfelt thanks to Arlene's care family at Elk Court and Eagle Lane for the compassion, comfort, and kindness shown to her, and for making her final days as peaceful and meaningful as possible. A family Celebration of Life will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you honour Arlene's legacy by doing something special for someone in need. Consider making a donation to your local food bank, volunteering at a drop-in centre, or simply reaching out to remind someone they are not alone and can count on you.

MASÉE, Pieter - It is with utter sadness and hearts full of cherished memories, that we announce the passing of Pieter Masée, age 80, of Truro, Nova Scotia on May 12, 2026. Born on September 6, 1945, in Rhenen, Netherlands, Pieter moved to Ontario, Canada in his early twenties, beginning a life of exploration, resilience and creation. Over the course of his life, his journey took him from Ontario to British Columbia, to Alberta and finally to Nova Scotia, touching countless lives from coast to coast. Pieter was predeceased by his sister, Annie (Gabriel van der Plaats) and by his parents, Jan Adolf Masée and Everdina (Van Manen). He is survived and remembered with immense love by his wife, Laurynnda; his sons, Maurice Masée (Colleen), Aram Masée (Alex), Michael Milligan (Sidney) and Teddy Masée; and his beloved grandchildren, Simone, Astrid and Nikolas, who brought him immeasurable joy. Pieter is also survived by his older sister, Emmy (Peter Catoen). A man gifted with his hands and endlessly curiosity, Pieter embraced many trades and passions throughout his life. Hairdressing, bus driving, firefighting, photography, sailing, building, music, jamming, travelling and card playing to name a few. One of his proudest moments was carrying the Olympic torch for the 1988 Calgary Winter Games, a memory he treasured deeply. Above all, Pieter loved his wife, Laurynnda and his family. He was endlessly proud of his sons, granddaughters and grandson. Pieter will be remembered for his strength, his determination, his humour and the unmistakable wit felt by all who knew him. When asked how he was feeling, it was rare for Pieter not to declare himself "totally awesome" - a phrase that now echoes lovingly in the hearts of those he leaves behind. A private celebration of Pieter's life will be held at a later date.

MacKENZIE, Doris Eileen, age 96, passed away peacefully on May 15, 2026, at her home in Wynn Park Villa. Born in Truro, she was the daughter of the late Stanley and Blanch (Hamilton) Smith. Doris worked briefly at Stanfield's Ltd. Textile Mill before marriage. After raising four children, she returned to work part time at Zeller's Mall for a few years before starting her favorite job as a cafeteria cook at Salmon River Elementary School. This was the job she truly loved and enjoyed working along side her best friend, Shirley for many years before retirement. She was a member of the United Church of Canada, Harmony-Camden United Church, UCW, the Ladies Auxiliary of the Salmon River Fire Brigade and after her retirement, the Woman's Senior Bowling League in Bible Hill, where she bowled a Hi Triple of 339. She (Ma) enjoyed music and dancing, especially the Polka with the love of her life, her husband, Roy (Pa). Doris is survived by her children, Gerald (Vanya) MacKenzie, Bonnie Bennett, Mark (Janet) MacKenzie, Darrell (Karen) MacKenzie; brother, Stephen (Barb) Smith; sisters-in-law, Rita and Bev Smith and Barb, Helen and Peg MacKenzie, several grandchildren, great grandchildren and one great-great granddaughter, nieces and nephews. Besides her parents, she was predeceased by her husband, Roy MacKenzie; siblings, Elroy, Ralph, Evelyn and Raymond in infancy; son-in-law, Fred Bennett and granddaughter, Michelle; sisters-in-law, Helen (Don) Grant, Betty, Irene, Margaret (Ernestine MacKenzie, at birth) and Blanche MacKenzie; brothers-in-law, Russel, Harold, Ernest, Arthur, Hazen, Floyd and Howard MacKenzie. Special thanks are extended to all the staff and care workers of Wynn Park Villa for all their support and care over the years and for making her final days comfortable ones. You are all amazing and went above and beyond for Doris and she loved you all. Thank you so much. Arrangements have been entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow Street, Truro; where her family received friends in a Celebration of Life/Visitation on Friday, May 22nd. A private family interment took place in Watson Cemetery, on Friday, May 22nd at 3 pm. If so desired, donations in Doris's memory may be made to Harmony-Camden Church or a charity of choice.



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Colchester
be centred here.

Council Meeting

Thursday, May 28 @ 6pm

Presentations Meeting

Tuesday, June 2 @ 6pm

Council Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 11 @ 6pm

Council Meeting

Thursday, June 25 @ 6pm

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