

OBITUARIES

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

SOYER, Margaret Jennifer Betty Ann (Turney), Central North River, NS, passed away on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at home. Margaret will join other family who have passed away and are now at peace, her husband, John; son, Jonathan "Jimmy", her parents, Thomas and Edna (Beecham) Turney; sister, Beryl. She was also predeceased by her husband, John's parents, Edward and Dorothy Soyer and John's brother, Charles. She loved and spoiled her pets, offering home cooked meals, holiday dinners and several treats. Her last dog, Kane, passed in May 2023, giving her some comfort after losing her husband (March 2023) and son (December 2021). She really enjoyed her time contributing to the economy, whether it was ordering through the catalogues of Eaton's and Sears or in person at their stores. Other shops that were her favourites, Margolians, Mark's, Head Experts and Truro Atlantic Superstore. A special thanks to all who were so kind and created an enjoyable time for her trips out. Additionally, the family would like to thank the neighbours who were so helpful, so Margaret could enjoy her life at home. Margaret is survived by her daughter, Annette Soyer; grandson, Shawn White; granddaughter, Robin (Mikel) and great granddaughters, Olivia and Abigail Derksen. She is survived by several siblings, Mervyn, Jeanette, Yvonne, David, Christine, Rowland, along with their partners, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. She certainly was one of a kind and liked things to be done, "her way". Even in the end, she had her wish...was home and had peace. No visitation or service by request. Arrangements have been entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. Online condolences at www.ColchesterCommunity.com

RUSHTON, Judy, - It is with great sadness the family of Judy Rushton announces her passing on August 25, 2023. Judy was born in Truro and raised by Jack and Joan Mont. Her father, Jack, had a life-long career working for the town of Truro while her mother, Joan, ran the Blue Bird corner store, where Judy helped out in her youth. Judy was the youngest of three siblings; older brother, Wayne Mont, and sister, Sherry Mont, who have stayed close with Judy for their entire lives. After high school, Judy attended Bible College in Peterborough, Ontario. Soon after, she met her husband of 41 years, Earle Rushton, whom she flew back and forth between Nova Scotia and Toronto to be with. During this time, Judy was beginning her career with Dalhousie University working in the administration department. Judy moved on from her career to dedicate herself to raising her family. Judy and Earle have two children, Sarah and Joel, who were her pride and joy. Judy was involved in many volunteer opportunities pertaining to her kids, including her well known role as noon hour supervisor at her children's school. When Sarah and Joel became old enough, Judy began her career at Shoppers Drug Mart where she was well recognized in the community, working there for over a decade. Judy would then go on to retire early to become a prominent figure in the life of her first grandchild, Blakely. Soon after, Judy was over the moon to know that her grandson, Spencer was on the way. Judy played a paramount role in supporting her daughter, Sarah, through a difficult pregnancy. For an entire summer, she selflessly lived on a cot at the IWK, as well as in the Ronald McDonald House, alongside Sarah. Judy was an integral part of both of her grandchildren's lives, laying down the foundation to their upbringing and dedicating every day to being the best possible Nanny. From their day-to-day care to their extracurricular activities, Judy poured her soul into nurturing and caring for her grandkids. In Judy's spare time, she loved doing crosswords, keeping up to date on politics, and running the roads with her sister, Sherry, who recently moved back to Nova Scotia from British Columbia. Judy was predeceased by both parents, Joan and Jack Mont. Judy is survived by her husband, Earle; daughter, Sarah (Jeremy); son, Joel (Janaya); her brother, Wayne (Marie); sister, Sherry; her grandchildren, Blakely and Spencer, along with many cousins, friends and her best friend, Pat. Judy was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, cousin, friend, and will be dearly missed. There aren't enough words or pages to describe the positive energy that Judy radiated to all in her life. A Celebration of Judy's Life was held September 5th in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. Interment to follow in Watson Cemetery.

WALKER, Mabel Reatha (née Sponagle), January 13, 1929 to August 26, 2023. With sadness, and with appreciation for a life lived to the fullest, the family of Mabel (née Sponagle) Walker announce her passing on August 26, 2023, in Truro, Nova Scotia. Mabel will live on in the memory of her daughters, Catherine (and Bill Rice), of Lunenburg and Anne (and Alan Clark), of Truro; her son, Allan (and Andrea) of Jacksonville, NB; and her forever-daughter-in-law, Diane McLean-Walker, of Truro. Mabel was a caring grandmother to Tina Walker-Morgan (and Tim), John Walker (and Julia), and Danielle Walker; Alexander Clark; and Allana, Alex (and Emily), and Luke Walker. She was equally delighted by her seven great-grandchildren, Thane and Tanner Morgan; Elyse, Rylen and Cayleb Harpell; and Kathleen and Daniel Walker. Mabel was predeceased by her loving husband of sixty years, John Walker, in 2015, and her beloved son, Daniel, in 2010. Born in Goldenville, Guysborough County in January 1929, Mabel was the youngest child of James Augustus and Alberta (née Nickerson) Sponagle. One of twelve, she was predeceased by five brothers: Byron, Sheet Harbour; Edwin, Goldenville; Lester, Halifax; Morton, Liverpool; and Robert, Moncton; and five sisters: Alberta Smith, Goshen; Doris Hudson, Country Harbour; Irene McDonald, Halifax; Ina Sponagle, Bible Hill; and Olive Christianson, Truro. She is survived by her devoted brother Harold (and wife Eileen), Halifax. Mabel cherished each of her siblings and her many nieces and nephews. Mabel graduated from high school at a young age and spent two years teaching in one-room schools in rural Nova Scotia until she was old enough to attend St. Martha's School of Nursing in Antigonish. She continued her nursing education at Dalhousie University and enjoyed travelling the rural roads as a public health nurse until the birth of her first child. She and John called 64 Park Street home for over 60 years. They are fondly remembered for their generous hospitality, both at Park Street, and at their cottage on the Brule Shore. When her family was older, Mabel returned to nursing, working in a local medical clinic. She always made time for others—contributing countless volunteer hours with the Canadian Cancer Society, the Catholic Women's League, and St. Mary's Elementary School. She was a lifelong member of Immaculate Conception parish, and her evolving faith was a source of strength and comfort throughout her life. At mid-life, she enjoyed cross-country skiing, golfing, and travel adventures with friends. In later years, she continued to make the best strawberry jam, enjoy good books, play bridge, go for walks, and keep up with family and friends—she never lost her zest for life or for learning. When she reluctantly gave up driving in her early 90s, she moved to a cozy apartment at Edinburgh Hall, Parkland where she enjoyed a hilltop view and making new friends. A Liturgy of the Word was held in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow Street, Truro, NS August 31st. A private interment for family will follow at St. Michael's Silent City Cemetery in Middleton Corner, Colchester County. Donations in Mabel's memory may be made to the Colchester Food Bank "Hope Not Hunger."

AKERMAN, Kathleen Mary – Age 88, Truro. The family of Kathleen Mary Akerman (nee Williams) are saddened to announce her peaceful passing on August 28, 2023, in Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro. Left to celebrate her life is her husband, David Richard "Dick" Akerman; children, Tim Brennan and Maureen Brennan; grandson, Matthew Brennan (Kendra) and great-grandson, Jack. Kathleen was predeceased by son, Sean and infant daughter, Clare. Arrangements have been entrusted to Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. Service details and full obituary will be provided at a later date. Online condolences may be made by visiting www.ColchesterCommunity.com

BORDEN, William "Jake" Harden – Age 71, Truro, passed away at home on Sunday, September 3, 2023. Born in Truro, he was a son of Charles and Evelyn (Clyde) Borden. Jake worked as Assistant Director of the Centennial Pool as well as coached the Truro Centurian Swim Team. He also worked at the Residential Centre for several years before teaching at Bicentennial Junior High and John Martin Junior High, both in Dartmouth. Along with his years of coaching and teaching, he coached Bantam Football, Track and Field and later, following the loss of his eyesight, he coached the Special Olympics Track. He loved spending time walking the marsh with his dogs. He was a devoted father and husband and will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Along with his parents, he is survived by his sons, William, Toronto and Jacob, Truro; daughter, Sondra, Truro; sisters, Roxanne, Brantford, ON, Shelley, Truro, Geraldine (Ivan) Wright, Truro; brothers, Michael, Charles, Nathan, all of Truro and Scott (Janet) of Halifax; special niece, Lisa, Truro as well as several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins. He was predeceased by his wife, Carmen (Desmond) and brother, Shawn. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Truro Minor Football Association. A celebration of life was held Saturday, September 9th in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.ColchesterCommunity.com.

ATHANASIOU, Tom Socrates - With heavy hearts we announce the passing of Tom Socrates Athanasiou, a few days before his 76th birthday. Born in Montreal, Quebec on September 8th, 1947, he passed peacefully surrounded by those who loved him most on September 2nd, 2023, in the Mira Nursing Home in Truro, Nova Scotia. A devoted family man, he is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Jean Ann (Conrad) and his proud children, Andrew (Julie) and Janet (Clay Caston). He was a loving uncle to his nieces and nephews and loved being "Papa Tom" to Amy and Jonah Morgan, Liam Boyd, Josie and Abby Conrad, Libby Hill, Matthew and Nicholas D'Amario. Tom was predeceased by his father, Andrew; his mother, Evelyn "Dickie" and sister, Catherine. He was a graduate of Acadia University and Dalhousie University and spent 36 years working for the Bank of Montreal in Halifax, Toronto, and Ottawa. Upon retirement from the Bank in 2005, he soon discovered he was not quite yet ready for true retirement and dabbled as a consultant with SF Group before he and Jeannie moved to Nova Scotia where he again discovered he was still not yet ready for complete retirement and worked at Advocate Printing from 2008-2015. Tom made an impact on all who knew him, as a friend, mentor, leader, and coach. He had a quirky sense of humour and was always quick with a smile. In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to the Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia, the IWK Hospital Foundation or a charity of your choosing. We would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to the staff and medical personnel at the Mira and the East Cumberland Lodge for taking such good care of Tom. A memorial for Tom was held September 17, 2023, in the Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS.

IRVING, Logan, Richard – Age 88, Amherst, passed away on Sunday, September 3, 2023, in Gables Lodge, Amherst. He was a son of the late Kenneth and Freda Logan of Amherst Point. Richard is survived by his wife, Betty (Duizer) Logan; sons, Paul (Susan), East Lawrencetown and Christopher (Vicki), Lower Sackville; daughter, Lisa (Laurie) Jennings, Massetown; seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Also survived by Betty's children, Tammy Parker, Fredericton, Stephen Duizer, Amherst, Andrew Duizer, Thunder Bay, ON, and Glen Duizer, Mitchell, MB; sisters, Lyn (Ron) Estabrooks, Olivia (Stan) Williams and Beth (John) Dickinson, all of Amherst, as well as brother, Fred (Diane), Cape Spear, NB. Besides his parents, Richard was predeceased by his first wife, Bernice (Noonan) and his brother, David. Richard grew up in Amherst Point on the family dairy farm and was actively involved in the larger farming community and 4H. From an early age, he loved to play hockey and was a devoted Leafs' fan. After retirement from PolyCello in Amherst, Richard took up curling. He was a member of both the Truro and Amherst curling clubs. Richard was a volunteer and supporter of the Truro and Amherst hospitals as well as the Amherst Hospice and CFTA radio in Amherst. Being a very social and handy guy, Richard always enjoyed visiting neighbours and lending a helping hand when needed. When he was at his cottage, it was a common thing to see him heading out in the morning, hammer in hand, to assist a friend with a project. Richard and Betty were members of the Wentworth United Church and were very active in Trinity-St. Stephen's United Church in Amherst. Richard's family would like to express their deepest appreciation to the staff of both, the Amherst Regional Hospital ER and Gables Lodge. Your kindness and caring will be long remembered. Thank you. Cremation has taken place and there will be a private graveside 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

HIGGINS, Dale Alexander – Age 72, Truro. The family of the late Dale A. Higgins regret to announce his passing in Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Truro on September 7, 2023, after a lengthy illness. Dale was predeceased by his father and mother, Alexander W. Higgins and Lillian (Graham) Higgins and baby sister, Linda Kay Higgins. Dale is survived by his spouse, Patricia Cody; son, Brad Coady; sister, Joan Camilli (the late Domenico); nieces, Maria (Robert) Hashem and Pia Camilli and nephew, Nick Camilli and their families; sister, Ethel Mae Ehler (Percy Stewart); nephew, Paul (Loretta) Ehler; nieces, Shelley Ehler and Leona (Jim) Burris and families. Dale was a long-time employee of Sobeys in Truro. He enjoyed coffee in the mornings with his buddies, watching the Toronto Maple Leafs play hockey, playing darts and volunteering with Crimestoppers in Truro. He will be greatly missed by his furry friend, Rocky. The family are grateful for the wonderful health care providers in the Halifax and Truro hospitals. Thank you to the Palliative Care teams in Truro with Dr. D. Henderson and Dr. R. Graham for making things comfortable for Dale and his family. Donations in Dale's memory made to the CEHHC "We Care About Cancer" will be greatly appreciated. A celebration of Dale's life was held Sept. 15th in the Truro & District Lions Club, 1100 Prince St., Truro. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro, NS. Online condolences available at www.ColchesterCommunity.com

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