

In Memoriam: Bernie MacDonald

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In Memoriam: Bernie MacDonald

Bernard Murray MacDonald, 66, of Truro passed away peacefully January 16th in Victoria General Hospital, Halifax.

Born in Truro, Bernie lived his early years in Shubenacadie. He attended the Nova Scotia Teachers College in Truro and started a long successful teaching career in 1967. He graduated with a BSc. from Gorham State College, a MSc. from the University of Maine and a doctorate degree from West Virginia University. Bernie was passionate about education. He taught public school in Halifax and in 1975, moved to the Nova Scotia Teachers College where he held positions of professor, department head, Vice Principal and Principal. In 1994, he was appointed Vice President Administration of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College and later added the role of co-president. Then came the excitement of retirement, camping, relaxation, return to woodworking and most importantly spending time with Ann and his grandchildren.

Bernie was a train enthusiast who enjoyed model trains and was a member of the Truro Model Railway Club. He was also involved in his church as a Sunday School teacher and member of the Board of Stewards and Session. Bernie was a member of the Masonic Lodge Truro #43, the Scottish Rite and the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission. He loved to travel and was fortunate to see much of the world and he always looked forward to his annual trip to New Zealand.

His family was his great love and joy. He was the devoted husband of Ann for 41 years ; loving father of son Jason and his wife Philippa, Auckland, New Zealand and daughter Cari and her husband Harvey Gray, Bridgewater; loving Grandad to Christopher, Matthew, Alex and Ashleigh MacDonald and Mara and Rowan Gray; brother to Betty and her husband Jim Fulton, and Connie and her husband Dwayne Doucette; brother-in-law to Eva and her husband John Lantz, Illinois. He was predeceased by his parents Harry and Phyllis MacDonald and Ann's parents Fred and Jean Williams.

In 2001, Bernie was diagnosed with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL). He enjoyed good health until quite recently. The family would like to thank the doctors and nurses at the Colchester Regional Hospital and 8th Floor Hematology Unit and ICU at the VG Hospital for their care and support.

Cremation has taken place. Visitation will take place at the Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow Street, Truro on Wednesday, January 23 from 7-9 pm with a Masonic Lodge Service at 6:30pm. A celebration of Bernie's life will be held at First United Church, 711 Prince St., Truro on Thursday, January 24 at 3 pm with Rev. Valerie Kingsbury and Rev. David MacNaughton officiating.

Reception to follow in the Church Hall. Interment will take place at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society, First United Church or a charity of your choice. Online condolences and donations may be made at: www.colchestercommunity.com