

OBITUARIES

James Leo Bonaparte

James Leo Bonaparte, 78, passed away in the early hours of Wednesday, March 31, 2010, at the Victoria County Memorial Hospital in Baddeck.

Born in MacKinnon's Harbour on April 12, 1931, Leo was the son of the late Joseph and Mamie (Mombourquette) Bonaparte. Due to the passing of his mother shortly after his birth, Leo was raised by the late John Alex and Elizabeth MacNeil, Ottawa Brook.

In his early years, Leo worked for the CN Railroad, and then for Little Narrows Gypsum until his retirement. He was a member of St. Columba Parish, Iona. He was also a member of the Iona Volunteer Fire Department. During the last few years he enjoyed the company of family, friends and neighbours who would visit with him for friendly chats and, of course, a game of cards which he thoroughly enjoyed.

Leo is survived by daughters, Linda (Monty) Northen, Welland, Ontario, Joanne (Gordie) Harrietha, Mill Creek; sons, Eric Bonaparte, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Gerard (Jennifer) Bonaparte, Boca Raton, Florida, Billy (Valerie) Bonaparte, River Denys; grandchildren, Lisa (Bryan) Morawiecki, Peter (Denise) Northen, Jenna Northen, Matthew (Penny) Bonaparte, Jason MacNeil-Mah; step-grandchildren, Amanda and Heather Tomazin and Ashley Tellestone; great-grandchildren, Haileigh and Jesse Bonaparte and Mason Northen. Leo is also survived by his sister Kathleen MacLean, Ottawa Brook, adopted sister Genevieve MacNeil, Baddeck; brother-in-law Michael MacNeil, Ottawa Brook, and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his wife of 53 years, Helen (Haley) Bonaparte; sisters, Anna Bailey, Bertha MacLeod, Rita MacInnis, Cecilia MacNeil, Nora Gagne, Annie MacNeil and brothers Charlie, Abe, Felix; three sisters and one brother in infancy.

The burial will be in St. Joseph Cemetery, Bras d'Or, at a later date. Memorial donations in Leo's memory may be made to the Cape Breton Cancer Center or to a charity of one's choice.

Albert Nicholson

Albert Nicholson 71, of Sydney formerly of Baddeck passed away Friday, April 2, 2010 at the Cape Breton Regional Hospital.

Born in Bucklaw, he was the son of the late Peter and Alberta (Jardine) Nicholson.

He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and St. Marks Masonic Lodge #35, Baddeck. He was a member of AA for 30 years. Albert served in Germany for three years in the Armed Forces as a member of the Black Watch.

Albert is survived by daughters, Alberta (Phillip) Ferguson, Mae (Brent) Stone, both of Sydney; sons, Robert (Annie), Halifax, Arthur (Bev), Dartmouth; brother, Johnny, Sydney; step-sister, Patsy Matheson, Hazel-dale; stepbrother, Bobby (Debbie), Sydney Mines, 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his wife Erna (Wambolt) and step-sister, Jessie MacDonald.

Interment was in Hardwood Hill Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society or the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

John Alexander Hutchison

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the death of John Alexander Hutchison of Margaree Centre at the Victoria County Memorial Hospital, Baddeck, on April 3, 2010.

Born at Baddeck Inlet on August 26, 1926, John was the son of the late Dan Colin and Margaret Emma (MacLean) Hutchison.

John was a heavy duty mechanic employed with the Department of Highways in Baddeck for over 30 years. He was a veteran of the Second World War and a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch No. 53. He was also a member of Masonic Lodge No. 35, Baddeck.

Surviving are children, Judy (Michael) Maloney, Middle River, John (Joanne), Sydney, Brian, Saint John, N.B.; daughter-in-law, Sandra; grandchildren, Krista, Jordan, Jennifer, Tracy, Kimberley, Amanda and seven great-grandchildren; sister, Margaret (Hughie) MacKay, Shubenacadie. John is also survived by his loving and faithful partner, Lorraine Phillips. He leaves behind many, many friends - too numerous to mention.

Beside his parents, he was predeceased by his wife, Ethel, son, Donald, brothers, Joe and David, sisters, Annie and Mary and a sibling in infancy.

Burial took place in the Middle River Cemetery. Memorial donations in John's memory can be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation or a charity of choice.

Daniel 'Tommy' Sams

Daniel 'Tommy' Sams passed away on Saturday, April 3, 2010 at his residence.

Born in Neil's Harbour, he was the son of the late Leonard Taylor and Blanche Sams. He was employed with the Cape Breton Victoria Regional Schoolboard.

Daniel is survived by his wife, Vena Powless; daughters, Melissa (Eric) Scott, Ontario, Shannon (Michael) Long, Coxheath, Cheryl Powless, Glace Bay and by his son, Danny Sams, Ontario. He is also survived by sisters, Phyllis, Freda, Agnes, Diane and brothers, Ronnie, A.G. and Junior. Papa also leaves behind his three precious, beautiful grandchildren, Breagha, Makayla and Michael, who were his pride and joy. He will also be sadly missed by his special nieces, Shannon (Gordon), Shondelle (Justin), Shari, Shauna (George), Cheryl (Colin) and very special friends, 'Auntie Marie' and Mark Organ.

Daniel was predeceased by his sister, Sueanne (Stewart) and brother, Vaughan (Judy).

A funeral service was held, Thursday, April 8th, 2010 with Rev. Vernon Reid officiating. Memorial donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation, the Canadian Cancer Society or the charity of your choice.

Irene (Kearney) Grant

Irene Marie, (nee Kearney) Grant, 79, passed away April 5, 2010, with dignity and love after a short battle with lung cancer.

Irene was born in New Waterford, Cape Breton to a coal mining family on February 25, 1931. Daughter of late Cornelius (Don) and Marion Kearney, Irene grew up in a family of five.

In 1954 Irene married husband Bill Grant and raised seven children on a farm in

Baddeck. Irene lived her life with humour and intellect and was always generous with stories, laughter and baked goods.

Raised a city girl, Irene developed a lifelong interest and talent for shopping.

Although moving to Halifax 14 years ago, Irene's heart has always remained in Cape Breton.

Irene was predeceased by a son, Kevin Harold; a brother, William Kearney of Trenton, Ont. and a sister, Bernice Gregor of North Bay, Ont.

Irene is survived by a loving family including her husband, Bill; her children, Kathy (George) Dauphney, Baddeck, Frances (Shane) Feriancek, Lower Sackville, Wilen Grant, Truro, Terry Grant, Ingonish, Billy at home in Halifax and Joan (Robert) Babineau, Sussex Corner, N.B. and her siblings, sister, Marion Bennett, B.C. and brother, Ted Kearney, Lower Sackville. Grandmother of 12 and great-grandmother of one, Irene knitted many pairs of Christmas mittens for Erin (Aaron), Simon, Rebekah, Nicole, William, Luke, Ian, Matthew, Haley, Tyler, Owen and Carly, and Heath. She is also survived by many special nieces and nephews.

Known for her long winded stories and her quick tongue, Irene will be greatly missed and warmly remembered by all of her family and friends.

A mass was held Friday, April 9th, 2010, at Saint John the Baptist Church, Purcells Cove Road in Halifax. Memorial donations can be made to New Leaf Enterprises or the Epilepsy Association.

Frances 'Pat' MacKinnon

It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden passing of our sister and mother, Pat MacKinnon on April 3, 2010.

Pat was a long time employee of the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Born in Washabuck, she was the daughter of the late Dan Francis and Kathleen (Murphy) MacDonald.

Pat is survived by her sons, Dale and Warren; sisters, Gert (Stan) Chapman, Marie (John) MacDonald, Charlotte (Fred) Malcolm, Brenda (Larry) MacNeil, Mary (Foncic) Farrell, Donna (John Stephen) MacDonald and brother, Blair (Carmel) MacDonald. She is also survived by several nieces and nephews and many wonderful friends.

Besides her parents, Pat was also predeceased by a brother, Gregory and nephew, Kevin MacRae.

Interment was in Holy Rosary Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Holy Rosary Cemetery Fund, 3736 Washabuck Road, B2C 1M5 or to the charity of one's choice.

Jean (Croft) Baker

Jean Marie Baker, 84, a resident of Alderwood Rest Home, Baddeck, passed away peacefully at her residence on Tuesday, April 6, 2010.

Born in Chester Basin, N.S., she was the daughter of the late Gordon and Lottie Croft.

Jean was a member of St. Andrew's United Church, Sydney, Club 55 and her favorite Rumoli Club.

She will be loved and missed by her daughters, Joan (Melvin) Marsh, Brampton, Ont., Audrey (Stephen) Phinney, Markham, Ont. and Annette (Harold) Byrde, New Waterford; sons, David (Nancy), Baddeck and Bradley (Bertha), New Waterford; sisters, Audrey Wescott, Chester Basin and

Sylvia Siske, Bridgewater; brother, John, Chester Basin; 15 grandchildren, Ken, Chad, Kim, Jean, Meredith, Rebecca, Matthew, Harold, Charlene, Wayne, Jean, Dustin, Christopher, Jonathan and Walter Baker Jr.; several great-grandchildren; and special friend, Sheila Coleman.

Jean was predeceased by her husband, Walter; son, Robert; sisters, Helna and Bertha; brothers, Harold and Alden.

Interment was in Forest Haven Memorial Gardens.

Margaret 'Peggy' C. Kerr

Margaret Christine 'Peggy' (Matheson) Kerr, 95, of Halifax and Little Narrows, passed away peacefully on April 11, 2010, in Inverness Memorial Hospital, Inverness, N.S.

Born June 5, 1914, in Little Narrows, she was a daughter of the late John Edward Matheson and Alena (MacLean) Matheson.

Peggy grew up in Little Narrows and went on to graduate as a registered nurse from Glace Bay General Hospital School of Nursing in 1939. Peggy was one of the first flight attendants for TransCanada Airlines (now Air Canada) at which time all attendants were required to be RNs.

While with TCA, she met her husband, pilot Sam Kerr. During her career as an RN, Peggy nursed at Saint John Hospital, N.B., St. Rita Hospital, Sydney, Inverness Memorial Hospital, Inverness, Doctor's Hospital, Miami, Fla., and finally at the Victoria General Hospital, Halifax, from where she retired.

Peggy is survived by her sister, Jean Lawley, Halifax; granddaughter, Meryl Kerr and great-granddaughter, Autumn Kerr, Stellarton; many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Along with her parents, Peggy was predeceased by her husband, Sam, son, David John Kerr, brothers, Norman, Malcolm and Alexander.

'Grammie' will be greatly missed by her family and lovingly remembered for her impeccable sense of style and her devotion to her son and granddaughter.

A funeral service was held April 14th in Little Narrows Presbyterian Church, Little Narrows, followed by interment in the church cemetery.

Mary Amelia Gillis

Mary Amelia Gillis, 87, a resident of the MacGillivray Guest Home, formerly, Gerard's Lane, Mira Road, passed away Wednesday, April 14, 2010, at the MacGillivray Guest Home, Sydney.

Born in Baddeck, she was the daughter of the late John and Elizabeth (MacDonald) Leaver.

Mary was a member of Immaculate Heart parish, Mira Road.

Surviving are her daughters, Judy (Stan) Dicks, Sydney, Anne Mader (Don Brown), Toronto, Theresa (Bob) Thomas, Mississauga, Ont., Arlene Muggah, Sydney, and Shelly Gillis (Rob Hayward), Owen Sound, Ont.; sons, Jack, Sydney, and Harold (Sue), Brampton, Ont.; sister, Bette (George) Clarke, Alderwood Rest Home, Baddeck; nine grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Mary was predeceased by her husband, John in 1984, son, Roddie, sister, Christine Gouthro, brother, George, granddaughter, Elizabeth Mader and great-granddaughter, Emily Logan Dicks.

Interment will be in Resurrection Cemetery at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the Children's Wish Foundation.



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TUESDAY, MAY 4TH

NEIL'S HARBOUR ~ 10:00 am to Noon

INGONISH BEACH ~ 12:30 to 4:00 pm

Doctors S. VanZwol (No Appointments Needed)

1-800-440-8387