

# OBITUARIES

## Ann Marguerite MacLean

Ann Marguerite MacLean, 71, Orangedale, passed away suddenly on Saturday, June 23, 2012, in the Victoria County Memorial Hospital. She was the daughter of the late Alfred and Marion (MacIver) Wright. Ann was born in Inverness on December 19, 1940 and lived her life in Orangedale, as an avid volunteer within her community.

She was a very proud mother and grandmother, as well as foster parent to many children in her home. Ann completed her personal care certificate and enjoyed her time working in long term care facilities in Baddeck and Port Hawkesbury. She was an active member of Orangedale United Church, United Church Women and Smith Community Centre.

Ann is survived by her husband, Gary; children, Kevin (Suzanne), Antigonish; William (Sally), Fall River; David (Ann Frances), Enfield; Tina (Randy) MacIntyre, Lower Sackville; grandchildren, Trevor, Erica, Colin, Garret, Lexi, Liam and Eilish; sisters, Joan (Sam) MacLean, Baddeck; Doris (Andy) Beaton, Port Hawkesbury; Wilma (Donnie) Morrison, Blues Mills; sister-in-law, Fran Wright, Antigonish; She was predeceased by her brother, Albert Wright (2010).

Ann was well known for her compassion towards animals who needed shelter. Special thanks to her close friends who continued to support them when she was unable.

Burial was in Gillis Cove Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the SPCA or to Gillis Cove Cemetery.

## Michael A. MacDonald

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the peaceful passing of a loving husband, father and grandfather, after a brief and courageous battle on Monday, June 25, 2012, at the Victoria County Memorial Hospital.

Born in Ottawa Brook, he was the son of the late James and Margaret (MacNeil) MacDonald.

He was a member of St. Columba parish, Iona.

He was retired from Little Narrows Gypsum. He was an avid crib player, loved a good story or joke, fiddle tunes and a square dance. He was great to lend a helping hand to his neighbours and his community.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, the former Mary Elizabeth Fraser; his son, James (Kelly); his daughters, Michelle (Ray), Marlene (Gary), Charlene (Robert), Tanya (John Lewis); his sisters, Katie MacNeil, Clemmie (Johnny MacKay), Cassie (Douglas MacRitchie); sister-in-law, Agatha MacDonald; grandchildren, Michael, Kyle, Michael, Allison and Marin; and many nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his brothers, Stanley and Alec, sisters, Theresa MacKenzie, Annie Mae Grube and Katherine Laberge

and his mother and father-in-law, Theresa and Daniel Fraser.

Cremation has taken place with burial in Sacred Heart Cemetery, MacKinnon's Harbour. Memorial donations may be made to palliative care at the Victoria County Memorial Hospital charitable foundation or L'Arche Cape Breton.

## Aliyah Fraser

On Monday, June 25, 2012, our hearts were broken when Aliyah Starr gained her little wings and became an angel for us, her mommy, Beverly; sister, Shyla and brother, Jeremy.

Aliyah Starr is also survived by great-grandmother, Virginia Fraser; grandmother, Thelma and grandfather, Jack (Millie) Fraser; uncle, Gary Fraser and his family; great uncle, Jackie; cousins and friends that were awaiting her arrival especially "Big Sis", Raelene Timmons.

A private family interment will take place at a later date. Donations in Aliyah Starr's memory may be made to the Cape Breton Regional Hospital, Neonatal Unit.

## Gordon 'Cyril' Brown

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Gordon Cyril Brown.

He was born in Dingwall, N.S. on August 20, 1931, the youngest child of the late John and Hattie (Fitzgerald) Brown. He passed on June 27, 2012 at the age of 80, from dementia related illness, at Buchanan Memorial Hospital in Neil's Harbour N.S. Prior to being in hospital he was a resident of Highland Manor in Neil's Harbour, N.S.

Cyril was married to Effie (MacKinnon) Brown for 52 years, who passed in January 2007.

He is survived by his children, daughter, Barabra (Herbie) Fraser of Dingwall N.S. and sons, Gordon (Jeannine) Brown of Aspy Bay N.S., Russell Brown of Dingwall N.S. and Scott (Joyce) Brown of Dingwall N.S. Cyril was Pappy to Richard (Amber) Brown, Jonathan (Natasha Snow) Brown, Mathew Brown, Chet Brown and great-grandfather to Autumn and Kiera Brown. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Cyril was predeceased by brothers, Lee, Curdy, John D., Pius, Lauchie, Artie and sisters, Cassie, Betty, Flora Mae, Jessie and Margaret. He is the last of that generation of Browns.

We will remember him as enjoying a "good cup of tea" with something sweet, teasing the grandkids, playing music, hunting and fishing, boating in North Harbour and playing a good game of cards and ring toss. For the most part he was self-employed first as a fisherman and later on as part of Brown and Fitzgerald's, an auto body repair shop in Dingwall. He was a licensed auto mechanic, a tinsmith and could put his hand to just about anything and fix it.

We will miss his sense of humour and corny jokes, but most of all we will miss a father, father-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather.

Burial for Cyril and Effie was in the parish cemetery. Donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Society of Nova Scotia.

## John William "Jack" Stephens, C.D.



Sydney, N.S.

Born in Sydney, July 10, 1928, the only son of the late W.J. "Bill" and Dorothy (McLean) Stephens. Jack is survived by three sons, Bill (Patty), David (Cathy) and James (Suzanne), grandchildren, John, Michele, Derek and Bella, and great-grandchildren, Zion, Jack and Sophia. He is also survived by his "baby sister", Diane and was predeceased by his sisters Faye and Elaine, his parents, and by his wife and loving companion, Ameta (Pike).

Jack was a wonderful man who embraced all with his infectious smile, his wit, charm and charisma. His true focus was his family - at the core of his heart. Jack loved the art of conversation, and the challenge of debate. He was a true wordsmith with a passion for reading, combined with his love of the cultural heritage of Cape Breton Island. He was an avid collector with a vast knowledge in many areas including antiques, books, post cards, numismatics and "Cape Bretoniana". A fixture in the village of Baddeck - Jack always found time to stop and talk at length with any and all - often with one of his beloved whippets, Stoney and Beinn waiting patiently in the car. Jack was an active and founding member of The Free-wheelers, Baddeck, and a long standing member of St. Andrew's Lodge, Sydney.

Jack was well known in the lumber industry having been employed with H.R. MacMillan Co. of Vancouver, and it was while living in Vancouver that Jack and Ameta were wed. He spent several years as sales manager in the family lumber business, J.W. Stephens Ltd. Jack and Ameta also operated Iron City Coins and designed and struck three Cape Breton commemorative medallions, The Black Friday Medallion, marking the 1967 closure of the Sydney Steel Works, The Miner's Museum Medallion, marking the 1967 opening of the Glace Bay Miner's Museum, and the John Cabot Medallion, commemorating the first sighting of North America. Jack also wrote a weekly article, "Coin Corner" for the C.B. Post. Jack later pursued a career with Parks Canada - first in Halifax as Atlantic Region Interpretive Advisor, and then in Baddeck where he was the Superintendent of the Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site. As a young man, Jack served with The Royal Canadian Regiment and with the Nova Scotia Highlanders - having attained the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel - serving as Aide de Camp to three of Nova Scotia's Lieutenant Governors. He was also a "Kentucky Colonel" - the highest title of honour bestowed by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky in recognition of noteworthy accomplishments and outstanding service to nation.

During his life Jack faced many challenges, including his bout with cancer - but,

true to form, he never complained or let things get the better of him and he faced each day with a smile and a good word for all. Jack spent the last sixteen months of his life on LeVatte's Lane where his engaging personality shone through as he comfortably interacted with the staff and fellow residents - his new-found family and community. He was a true gentleman to the very end.

The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the dedicated staff of LeVatte's Lane who took loving care of Jack - and embraced him as their "Papa" - with a special thank you to Cheryl, whom Jack held in high regard.

Jack has donated his remains to Dalhousie Medical School. There was no visitation. A service was held at Knox Presbyterian, Grant St. Baddeck, on Thursday, July 5, 2012.

## Joseph Cordell Mac Neil

Joseph Cordell Mac Neil, 65, passed away peacefully Sunday, July 1, 2012, at the Cape Breton Regional Hospital, Sydney.

Born in Bay St. Lawrence, he was the youngest son of the late John Alex and Elizabeth Jane Mac Neil.

Cordell is survived by his sisters, Catherine Kingsley and Julia Weiss (Ed) and brothers, John Stuart Mac Neil and Andrew Lawrence Mac Neil, brother-in-law, Tom Boucher. He is also survived by eight nieces and nephews and their children.

Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his sister, Christena 'Tena' Boucher and brother-in-law, Bob Kingsley.

He loved to travel and have fun. He enjoyed people and had many friends. He was well known and well liked. He will be missed by all. Cordell worked in Boston as a young man, returning home working for both the Co-op grocery store and the National Sea Products, retiring in Sydney.

Cremation has taken place. Interment was in St. Margaret's Church of Scotland cemetery, Bay St. Lawrence.

## Helen Grant

We the family regret to announce the passing on July 2, 2012, of a dear wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Helen (Targett) Grant, 74, of Englishtown at the Cape Breton Regional Hospital.

Born in Sydney Mines she was the daughter of the late Mabel Skinner and Ena and Bill Targett.

She was a member of the United Church and also was a member of the St. John's Ambulance. Helen had a big heart and was there to support and lend a hand to anyone in need. She was a volunteer for many events at the Englishtown Community Hall. Affectionately known as mama Smurf, she would always greet you with open arms and a smile.

Helen leaves behind her husband Gordon; son David (Crystal), Sydney; daughters Sherri (Al), Detroit, and Terri (Pascal) North Sydney. Also left to mourn are brothers, Eddy (Kay) Skinner and Bill (Liz) Timberly and sister Madeline Crew; grandchildren, Stephen, Samantha, Sheldon, Cody, Melissa, Lori and John; great-grandchildren, Justin, Jeremy, Sienna, Wyatt and Jordan.

She was predeceased by son Sheldon, nephew Allan Skinner, brothers, Clarence (Skookie) and Bobby Targett and several stepbrothers and sisters.

Cremation has taken place and a memorial was held at the Englishtown Community Hall. Burial will take at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Society.

## LARGE ESTATE AUCTION Baddeck Community Hall Saturday, July 14th - 11am (viewing beginning at 10 am)

**We have been favoured with instructions to sell complete contents of the Bishop Home from Coxheath, together with a large portion of the contents from the old Sydney home of Norma & Norman MacMullen who have now moved to Baddeck, and partial lots from the Margaree area, including nice furnishings, quality dishes & ornamentation, textiles & a large quantity of sewing associated items. Lighting, clocks, books, old Cape Breton MacLeods & MacAskills, tools, etc., etc.**

Complete list not available in time for this newspaper printing.

Refer to our website week of auction for up-to-date info/photos:  
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