

# OBITUARIES

## Donald MacLean Nicholson

It is with great sadness we announce the sudden passing of Donald MacLean Nicholson at his home in Middle River, Victoria County.

Born in West Side Middle River, he was the son of the late Johnny Sam and Mary (MacDonald) Nicholson.

Donald had a full and active life. He attended school in Middle River, Baddeck and Sydney Academy, followed by Truro Agricultural College, graduating in 1952, then he went on to graduate from MacDonald College at McGill University in 1956.

He enjoyed varied careers which took him across Canada and back home again. First with the Federal Department of Agriculture, starting as a livestock field man in 1956 and finishing as regional director for Food Production & Inspection for the province of Ontario. His next career began with his retirement from the Department of Agriculture in 1986 when he and his wife moved back to Cape Breton and started a hobby farm in his family community of Middle River. He then added fireman to his resume as a volunteer fireman in Middle River and his much cherished time as fire chief.

Donald was a Mason belonging to St. Marks Lodge, Baddeck, #35. He was active in his community volunteering his time with many groups including but not limited to the Middle River Recreational Association, service with the United Church as a Stewart and on various church committees and active member and past president of the Middle River Historical Society.

He was an avid sportsman, first as a participant in many sports, moving on to coaching and always as a fan.

He leaves behind his loving his wife of 56 years, Marie; children, Donna, Colin and Gordon (Brenda); five grandchildren, a great-grandson; his sister Shirley; brothers, Allan (Mabel), Alec (Anna) and Ray (Lois); many nieces and nephews along with a large extended family and many friends.

Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his sister Barbara, brothers, John and Irvine, brother-in-law Wayne and nephew Terrance.

A Masonic Service and Celebration of Donald's life was held at the Middle River Farguarson Presbyterian Church on Sunday, November 9, 2014, followed by interment at the local cemetery and a reception at the Middle River Community Hall. Memorial donations may be made to the Middle River United Church or the Middle River Historical Society.

## John Middleton May

March 17, 1925 New York City-November 12, 2014 Inverness, Cape Breton Island (by way of London, England and Bloomfield, Connecticut).

While on vacation visiting family in England, the US stock market crashed, and Jack and Ethel May raised John in Barnett, what is now North London.

John was a good student and excelled at maths, and after completing school worked as an accountant at S. Maw, Son and Sons.

In 1940 John joined the Home Guard to defend England, trained in weapons and tactics along with other boys under the instructions of veterans of The Great War.

In 1942, at his father's suggestion, John enlisted in the US Army Air Corps, who decided his most valuable military skill was the ability to keep books in pounds, shillings, and pence. His responsibilities as bookkeeper for the officers mess, expanded to include trips to Scotland to purchase Scotch. He served in a replacement unit through France and Germany.

Following the war John returned to New York City, as he said to "study the romance of accountancy" at Columbia University. It was during his studies that John met and married a young sculptress, Stephanie Middleton, as spontaneously impulsive as he was methodically plodding. John was absolutely devoted to Stephanie her whole life. As he phrased it after her passing, "I made all the important decisions, like what we would have for breakfast, and Stephanie made the unimportant decisions, like what country we would live in."

After a brief stint with Price Waterhouse, John and Stephanie moved to Hartford Connecticut, where he worked for Aetna Life and Casualty for twenty years. John raised his two children Geoffrey and Elizabeth, as he rose through the ranks of accountants and bean counters from rows of desks to the border cubicles, to frosted glass partitions by the windows. By the age of 48 John had a private ground floor corner office with board table, couch and plush chairs at head office, and his printed signature appeared on every cheque the Aetna Company issued. Before his 50th birthday as a Senior Vice President he walked away from it all, on Stephanie's suggestion that the family move to Margaree Harbour.

For the next 28 years John ran the Schooner Village Gift Shop and Schooner Restaurant in Margaree Harbour, dressed in his kilts, his thin corporate ties obscured under an

unruly beard. John was a living landmark greeting visitors and posing with the blue haired ladies who poured out of the endless tour buses, increasingly immersed in the language and music of his Highland Scots ancestors, remaking himself, as he re-sculpted his expanding miniature armies of Napoleonic Wars. The collection of toy soldiers he had begun with Stephanie's enthusiastic support as University students in Manhattan grew by 2001 to historically accurate displays of events in the Waterloo campaign containing 6000 figures. The expropriation of Stephanie and John's business to accommodate the new bridge signaled his retirement.

Throughout his life John sought to serve his world, with the United World Federalists (World Peace Through World Law), Bloomfield Open Spaces Committee, Alvin B Wood Scholarship, and supported Stephanie's anti-war efforts in Connecticut; Cape Breton Landowners Against the Spray; Margaree Tourism Association and Heritage River Committee; Save our Seas and Shores and other tourism and environmental groups in Nova Scotia.

Following Stephanie's death in 2003, dementia increasingly laid hold of his mind, robbing him of his memories and reason. He spent in his final years in the exceptionally wonderful hands of the kind caregivers at Cheticamp's Sacred Heart Medical Clinic and Inverness' Inverary Manor. On Monday, November 17 Gampo Abbey conducted a Sukhavati ceremony for John, attended by his family.

John is survived by his children, Elizabeth May (Ottawa and Sidney, BC), Geoffrey May and daughter-in-law Rebecca-Lynne (Margaree Harbour), granddaughter Cate May Burton (Halifax), grandson Andrew MacDonald (Ottawa), and two great granddaughters, Mary Jane Alexis, and Grace Marguerite (Ottawa). To honour John's memory, donations to the Green Party of Canada would be most appropriate. "A chuid do Pharras dha 'anam."

## Ronald James Hingley

Ronald James Hingley, age 80, of Salmon River, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family on Saturday, November 15, 2014.

Born in Kempton on July 4th, 1934, he was the 13th child of 16 children of the late William and Susan (McCabe) Hingley.

Ron worked for CN for almost 40 years before his retirement in 1989. After his retirement, he thoroughly enjoyed delivering trucks occasionally for Nova Enterprises which gave him the opportunity to drive all across Canada. He was a member and Past Master of Truro Masonic Lodge #43 and also a member of Brunswick Street United Church. Ron enjoyed fishing, hunting, hiking, bowling, and playing cards with family and friends. He was an avid outdoorsman with a true appreciation for nature. He was happiest when spending time at his land in Kempton, especially when accompanied by his children and grandchildren. He also had a keen interest in antique military vehicles and always enjoyed driving his antique army jeep. He had a great love of music and loved playing fiddle and bass guitar.

Ron was a devoted and loving husband, father, and Grampie. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Wilma (MacKenzie); daughter, Lorelei (Wayne) Colborne; son, Wayne (Marla)

Hingley, and his four treasured grandchildren, Sarah & Jessie Colborne and Devin & Jake Hingley. He is also survived by six brothers, Laurie (Carol), Robert (Pat), Flemming (Grace), Preston (June), Earl (Ethel), Ernest (Sylvia) and two sisters, Norma Green, Maxine (Charles) Shearer; brothers-in-law Ron Read & Monty MacDonald; sister-in-law Vida Hart and many nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by brothers Russell & Parker, sisters Marjorie, Anne, Bertha, Muriel, & Aileen.

The family wishes to extend a heartfelt thanks to Dr. Graham, the VON nurses, Dr. Henderson, Sue Gibbon, & Dawn Martell from the Palliative Care team for their wonderful care and support.

Cremation has taken place. A Masonic Service took place at Mattatall - Varner Funeral Home, 55 Young Street, Truro on Friday, November 21st, 2014, followed immediately by visitation. A private family burial will take place at a later date at St. Andrew's Cemetery in Baddeck Forks, Cape Breton. Immediate family flowers only.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Ron's memory to Brunswick Street United Church general fund, St. Andrew's United Church general fund in Baddeck Forks, Cape Breton, or the local VON and Palliative Care unit. Private messages of condolence can be sent to the family by viewing Ron's obituary and selecting "Send A Condolence" at: [www.mattatallvarnerfh.com](http://www.mattatallvarnerfh.com).

## IN MEMORIAM Burke

*In loving memory of  
Maynard Burke who passed  
away December 8th, 2013*

Gone, but not forgotten.

*Florence, Lori, Frank,  
Lisa & Jimmy*

## CARD OF THANKS

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to our wonderful family, friends and community for all the love and support on the loss of our sweet Kerrie, whether it be food, cards, visits, phone calls and most of all sharing stories and memories of Kerrie.

It brought us peace to know that not only was she loved by us but so many others as well.

We thank you for the laughs and cries and keeping her memory alive. We are reminded of the wonderful community we belong to and are truly appreciative of you all.

*Kerrie's loving Family*



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# SNOW PARKING

Effective December 15, 2014 to March 31, 2015

On-street parking will be prohibited in the areas listed below between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m.

### INVERNESS COUNTY

Charles MacLean Rd.  
Cheticamp  
Church Street  
Davis Dr.  
Grant St.  
Hilltop Dr.  
Kings Road  
Lovers Lane  
Mabou  
MacKenzie Ct.  
Village of Port Hastings  
Village of Inverness

### CAPE BRETON COUNTY

Cape Breton Regional Municipality

### RICHMOND COUNTY

Village of St. Peter's

### VICTORIA COUNTY

Village of Baddeck

For a list of province-wide locations please visit: [novascotia.ca/tran/winter](http://novascotia.ca/tran/winter)

