Dutchak, John Steve Dutchak

April 8, 2022



John Steve Dutchak

John Steve Dutchak, aged 87 years of Moose Jaw, SK passed away on Thursday, April 7th, 2022. John was born on May 8th, 1934 to John Dutchak and Rachelia “Rosie” (née: Oleynek). John’s parents along with his oldest siblings Karl and Irene immigrated to Canada from the Ukraine in the late 1920’s. They eventually settled in Moose Jaw.

John came from a large family of two brothers and five sisters. He grew up on South Hill and attended Westmount Public School. He graduated in 1952 from “Moose Jaw Technical High School” with a basic drafting course. He started working at Moose Jaw Plumbing and Heating. From there he completed a Metal Mechanics course and after four years as an apprentice he obtained his Journeyman certificate. John was a hard worker and was considered “one of the best in the trade”. He worked in the

trades for 38 years doing industrial work, mostly at C&E Heating and Plumbing. He was a very proud member of “Local Union #179”.

John met Elaine Davidson from Estevan, SK in 1956 in Moose Jaw at Temple Gardens Dance Hall. They fell in love and got married in St. Andrew’s Church on August 9th, 1958. They started their life and family on 4th Ave NW in Moose Jaw. They had two children, Shelley and Greg, and eventually built their dream and forever home.

John loved to tinker around in his garage and was quite a “Jack of all trades”. He could fix anything and always had the right part for the repair job. His saying was “nothing is impossible, it just takes longer”. He worked as a handyman for ten years after he retired. He took care of his home repairs, keeping everything in tip top shape until his health would not let him do so.

John liked all sports and played softball in his younger years. He always looked forward to their Grey Cup party each year. He enjoyed family and friends and had many fond memories of card nights, family dinners and get-togethers. He was a member of the Barbershoppers and a member of St. Andrew’s United Church Choir.

John’s pride and joy was his 1975 camper van and all the camping trips he and Elaine went on. Their van was well known because of its unique storage compartment John made shaped like a Saskatchewan grain elevator. It was attached to the back of the van, totally one of a kind! John and Elaine took trips across Canada, as far as Alaska and the North West Territories, as well as parts of the United States. They took a family trip to Disneyland, California in the 1970’s making lasting memories of a good time spent together.

He was predeceased by his Father, John; Mother, Rosie; brothers, Karl and Nick; sisters, Irene Petch and Stella Metz, and special sister, Helen; brother-in-law, Bill Metz; in-laws: Clarence and Cynthia Davidson, Yvonne and Maurice Monteyne, Lorraine and Bud Williams, and Wayne and Elaine Davidson. John will be sadly missed by his wife of 63 years, Elaine; daughter, Shelley (Ton) van Hallem; grandson, Marc Gould (Salmon Arm), granddaughter, Ashley (Chris) Sandbeck; great-granddaughters: Lexi, Thea and Remi, whom great-grandpa loved so much; son, Greg (Barb) and

extended family; sisters, Mary Dyer and Liz Cyr; sister-in-law, Marilyn (Percy) Hill; several nieces, nephews and cousins that he was very fond of; and God Child, Linda Nicholls (John Sulek).

If you think you are beaten, you are;
If you think you dare not, you don't.
If you'd like to win, but think you can't,
It's almost a cinch you won't.
If you think you'll lose, you're lost,
For out in the world we find.
Success begins with a fellow's will,
It's all in a state of mind.
If you think you're outclassed, you are,
You've got to be sure of yourself before
You can win a prize.
Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger or faster man;
But sooner or later the man who wins
Is the one who thinks he can.

Anonymous

A Graveside Service will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. in Rosedale Cemetery and a time of fellowship will follow in the Harvey Room at Moose Jaw Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations in John's name may be made to the Alzheimer Association of Saskatchewan, 301 – 2550 – 12th Ave, Regina, SK S4P 3X1, Canadian Mental Health Association, 2702 12th Ave, Regina, SK S4T 1J2, or to any relief fund supporting the Ukraine. Arrangements are entrusted to Moose Jaw Funeral Home, 268 Mulberry Lane. Andrew Pratt Funeral Director 306-693-4550

1.



Greg Nicholls on April 8, 2022 at 2:50 pm

I was very fortunate to have known John he and my dad where good friends. The both where excellent trades men and they wasn't nothing John could make out of metal . My

dad said he was the best tinsmith around . He was a very honorable man who I hope has found his peace my condolences Greg Nicholls.

Reply

2.



Wayne & Elaine Gill on April 8, 2022 at 4:06 pm

Dear Elaine, Shelley, Greg and extended family,
Wayne and I are saddened to hear of John’s passing; he was such a kind, gentle man. We will be forever grateful for his gift of the offer of our house 37 years ago. You are in our thoughts….

Reply

3.



Doris Dunlop on April 8, 2022 at 5:44 pm

Dear Ashley and family. My deepest condolences to all of John’s loved ones. You were all blessed to have such an amazing man in your lives.. As he was to be blessed with all of you.. May your memories carry each of you through this difficult time.. Sincerely Doris Dunlop

Reply

4.



Gary Schoenroth on April 8, 2022 at 6:07 pm

So sorry for your loss Elaine and family. John was a very loyal and appreciated team member at C&E for many years and a very good friend to Dad. I always enjoyed visiting with John and his honesty telling me that the bosses son has a lot to learn he was very right. May he Rest In Peace our deepest condolences. Gary & Karen Schoenroth

Reply

5.



Maureen Wareham on April 8, 2022 at 10:13 pm

Elaine, may your memories bring you comfort as you mourn the loss of John.

Reply

6.



Eleanor durie on April 9, 2022 at 8:47 am

Dear Shelley and family
So sorry to hear of your Dad’s passing
Thinking of you
Bruce and Eleanor

Reply

7.



Corliss Okerstrom on April 9, 2022 at 9:56 am

Elaine remember the good times and John will always be with you. Thoughts and prayers are for all of you at this time of sorrow

Reply

8.



Rhonda Hill & Bob Nelson on April 9, 2022 at 5:38 pm

Dear Elaine, Shelley, Greg, and Families
We are just feeling so bad about Uncle Johnnie's passing but also know what a battle he had been waging for the last 3 Plus years and we are thankful too that he has found peace and rest at last.
You know how much I loved him, his gentle ways, his smile and laugh, his continual photo and film taking, his love of animals and singing and working and how fussy he was.
Bob liked him so well and knew him from the jobsites and respected his work and the man that he was.
You all know how deeply we feel and how much sympathy we have for all of you.
John was such a good, good man and we are going to miss him something fierce.
Hang on to the literally thousands of good and happy memories we all have of him.
Love, love you Uncle Johnnie.
Be at peace.

Reply

9.



Gail and Orris Mikuliak on April 10, 2022 at 3:37 pm

Elaine and family
Our sympathies to you and yours.
Cherish your many memories.

Reply

10.



Brenda Reilly on April 11, 2022 at 3:23 pm

So sorry to hear of Johns passing. Cherish all your wonderful memories , sincerely Ron Mclauchlan , Brenda Reilly and Family

Reply