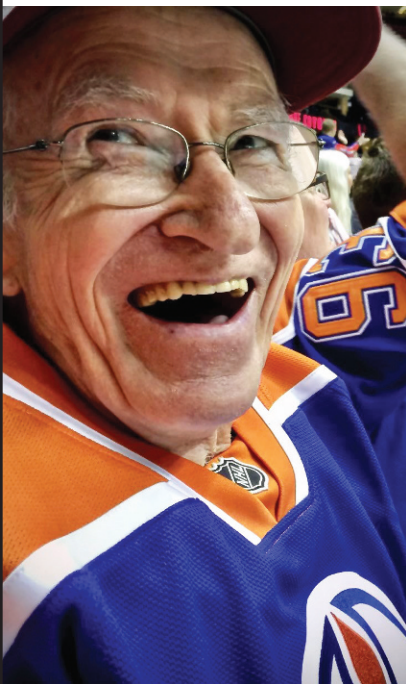


BERNARD (BERNIE) HIGH STRAKER

DECEMBER 12, 1935 - DECEMBER 03, 2021



Bernard Straker passed suddenly and unexpectedly early in the morning on December 3rd in Boise, ID. He always made it a habit to be early for any event he was headed to, so getting to heaven was no different as he had his special girl waiting for him there.

Bernie had a knack for being early for events, as well as, doing the unexpected. This was true from the time he entered the world on December 12, 1935 in Wishart, SK when he arrived before the doctor showed up for his delivery.

He attended a one room school in Wishart before heading to Radville Christian College for highschool. Bernie was especially fond of hockey. He grew up playing with his school team in Wishart as a young boy and Radville during his high school years. Bernard fell head over heels for more than hockey at Radville and was married on September 1, 1956 to his high school sweetheart Martha Carole Straker (Krogsgaard).

Bernard worked many jobs as a young man prior to receiving his teaching certificate from Abilene Christian University. Prior to moving north, Bernard taught in Brandon, MB, as well as, Western Christian College in Weyburn, SK. When he was 14 years old, young Bernard read a book about the Arctic and dreamt about, one day, adventuring to the north. In 1965 that dream came true when he and Carole moved a family of four (with a fifth on the way) to Rankin Inlet, NT where he accepted a teaching position. Two years later the family was on the move again; this time to Yellowknife, NT. Bernard spent the rest of his career at Sir John Franklin High School, where he became a favorite teacher to many students from Yellowknife and across the north. Yellowknife provided Bernard and Carole so many great opportunities, adventures and blessings; and it is where they added a sixth child to their family.

Bernie embraced retirement and continued his love of adventure and change. He and Carole joined a volunteer RV group called the Sojourners and enjoyed several years travelling across Canada and the United States in their RV working with church groups, camps and youth organizations helping out wherever they could by using their building skills.

He was a kind, gentle, good humoured man loved by all of those that knew him. He was passionate about his faith, loved his family dearly, and was a hero to his children and grandchildren. He was a master woodworker, photographer, athlete, and a loyal friend.

Bernard was predeceased by his beloved wife, Carole. Left to do their best to uphold his legacy are his six children: Kim Straker (Denny) of Airdrie, AB; Cindy Ashby of Yellowknife, NT; Jeff Straker of Grass Valley, CA; Randy Straker (Leslie) of Yellowknife, NT; Carolyn Trimp (Rick) of Calgary, AB; and Benji Straker (Evelyne) of Yellowknife, NT. He is also survived by his sixteen grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren. Left with decades of fond memories are his four siblings.

A celebration of Bernard's life was held at the Parma, ID Church of Christ on December 8, 2021.

A family gathering to honor and celebrate our hero is planned to take place at the family cabin on River Lake on July 1st, 2022.