

BRUNELLE

On Jan. 29, 2009, Seren Marie (Einarson) Brunelle passed away peacefully in hospital surrounded by family and friends at the age of 87. Born in a single-room log cabin in Esterhazy, SK on Feb. 17, 1921, Seren Einarson grew up in a true pioneer environment. At the age of 18, she left home to go to Winnipeg, MB. While there, Seren and her sister Eleanor played guitar and sang live to requests on a local Winnipeg radio station as The Einarson Sisters. She also worked as a housekeeper and in manufacturing bags and gloves. Thinking there was something better out there, Seren joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in the early 1940s, graduating top of her class in secretarial arts. She recorded pilot logs at Air Force control towers as part of the British Commonwealth Air Training Programme, ensuring pilots had enough hours to qualify for their licenses. Seren was saddened that many of the men who passed through her keeping never returned from active service. Some pilots took Seren flying in their Harvards, doing loop-de-loops and other acrobatics to try to scare her, even flying sideways between grain elevators, though they were never able to faze her. Seren thought it was one of the best experiences in her life. When the war ended, Seren travelled to St. Paul, AB to see her sister, meeting her husband-to-be, John Brunelle, and marrying him there. Seven years later they adopted twin babies. The Brunelle family lived in many places in Alberta and the Northwest Territories, finally settling in Innisfail until her passing many years later. Seren is predeceased by her husband, John Brunelle in 1988. She is survived by her two children, Linda and Alan, and his wife Bettina. Seren's joy in her later life was her four grandchildren, Gregory and Kimberly (Linda); and Victoria and Edith (Alan). After her husband's passing, Seren enjoyed a cruise to the tropics. Her son Alan took her on many adventures in the mountains, including a helicopter flight into Mount Assiniboine. Seren had an angel's voice and loved to sing at home. She had a green thumb at gardening and flawless crocheting, keeping a spotless house with a pot of coffee always ready for guests. Seren lived her life as a kind and caring person and will be missed deeply. Seren's funeral will be held on 1:00 pm, Mon. Feb 9, 2009 at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, Innisfail. Condolences to the family may be forwarded from www.mem.com. Arrangements entrusted to Metcalf Funeral Chapel, 4200 49th Ave., Innisfail. Phone: 403-227-3123. Proudly serving our community for over 45 years.

HOOVER

It is with profound sadness that the family announces the passing of Raymond Walter Hoover, 85, of Bowden, Alberta on January 29, 2009. Ray was born on Sept. 7, 1923 in Hanna, Alberta, the tenth child in a family of ten. He is predeceased by his parents and seven of his siblings. Ray leaves to mourn his loving wife Florence (Langvand), his son Barry (Teresa), five step-children, five step-grandchildren and two great step-grandchildren. At Ray's request, no funeral service will be held. Internment at Innisfail Cemetery, Innisfail, Alberta. In lieu of flowers, please donate to Canada Arms of Love, 100 Convention Way, Cochrane, Alberta, T4C 2G2 or a charity of your choice.

PEARSON

Dr. Len Pearson of Innisfail passed away January 29, 2009 at the age of 75. He will be deeply missed by his long-time partner Joyce Park and by his sister June Richardson. He is also survived by his first wife Marian; his daughters Shelley and Renee; his son-in-law Don Bence and grand-daughters Adrienne (Brad Mills) and Laura; Joyce's son Greg Park and his former wife Sandy and their children Jenny and Geoff (Tess Mcaig). Len had five great-grandchildren, who sadly won't get to know him. Len was pre-deceased by his daughter Karen, sisters Yvonne and Janet and brother Russ. Len was born and raised in and around Moose Jaw. He left Saskatchewan to study dentistry in Edmonton and established his dental practice in Calgary in 1957. A skilled and knowledgeable dentist, Len was well respected by his peers; he was active in the Alberta Dental Association and was the president of the Calgary Association. He later practiced in Didsbury; he retired from dentistry in the mid 1990s. Len always said that it was a craving for saskatoon pie that led him to start what became Pearson's Berry Farm. He grew his first saskatoon seedlings in the basement of the house he designed in Calgary. In 1969 he purchased the land for Pearson's Berry Farm, or as he often called it - "Poverty Flats." Len was a pioneer in the development and promotion of the native fruit industry in Western Canada. He was active in farmers' markets in South-Central Alberta. Len was never one to sit still. He was very active in municipal, provincial and federal politics in the 1960s and 1970s, running for office, fund-raising and acting as a campaign manager. He was a member of the Rotary Club in both Calgary and Innisfail. He even found time to play quite a few rounds of golf. Throughout his life, in everything he did, Len was generous with his time and experience and, in sharing his knowledge. He was always ready to share his opinions. He welcomed people into his life and home with endless shaggy dog stories and countless jokes. Have you heard the one about ... "Keep the faith." A funeral service was held at Heartland Funeral Services chapel on Tuesday February 3, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. If friends so desire, memorial tributes may be made to a charity of ones choice. HEARTLAND FUNERAL SERVICES LTD. Innisfail Funeral Home & Crematorium, 4415-49th St. Innisfail. Telephone 403-227-0006.

RITSON-BENNETT

Gregory Martin Ritson-Bennett was born in Plymouth, England on February 26, 1946. As an infant he and his family moved to Canada settling in Drumheller. When he was five they moved to Edmonton where he graduated from Bonnydoon High School. Greg loved to learn. He spent 11 years studying at the University of Alberta achieving degrees in biochemistry, genetics, education, and dentistry. It was during this time that Greg became a member of Theta Chi Fraternity, a brotherhood from which he would develop many life long friendships. In 1972 Greg married the love of his life Virginia Froehler. Upon graduating in 1977 he and his family moved to Innisfail where he set up his dental practice. For 31 years he did what he loved doing, dreading the day that Virginia would make him retire. Greg was very dedicated and proud of his children encouraging excellence in all of their endeavors. He was always very involved with their school and sporting activities. One of his most enjoyable activities involving his children was coaching the Dolphins swim team, always being the noticeable 'big guy' on deck congratulating all the swim team as they came out of the water regardless of their placing. His children will always remember Greg as a source of inspiration and a man who led by example. He loved to give whisker rubs, bear-hugs and the odd lick on the face. If he teased you, it was a sign of affection. He enjoyed cigars, a nice glass of port and hot tubs after a sail at the lake. He had high expectations for his children but nothing less than what he had for himself. One could not have asked for a better father. Greg was a very involved community man, receiving the Citizen of the Year award in 1991. As a Rotarian one of his most enjoyable activities was being the Rotary student exchange councilor. He and Virginia hosted many young people from many parts of the world. He had

a strong bond with his fellow Rotarians, feeling privileged to lead the group in O'Canada at all the meetings. Greg was also a member of the Masonic Lodge and the Innisfail Legion, having spent several years in the Naval Reserve. He will be remembered by dental colleagues for his work in helping to organize and chair the Confidential Assistance Program for the Alberta Dental Association. He was awarded the Alberta Dental Association and College Distinguished Medal of Service in 2005. In March of this year at the Canadian Dental Convention, he was to be inducted into the International College of Dentists, dedicated to the recognition of outstanding professional achievement and meritorious service for the continued progress of the profession of dentistry for the benefit of all humankind. In Greg's mind his most meaningful contribution was the opportunity and privilege on four occasions to serve the poor mountain villagers in Guatemala. Because he felt so blessed in his life he was grateful that he and Virginia were able to give back to society in this way. Greg is survived by his loving wife Virginia, his children Noel (Kristen), Rebecca (Mike), Timothy (Emily), and Andrew, his treasured grandchildren Ronin, William, Quinn, Roxanne, and Gregory, four brothers Nick, Roland, Willie, and David, two sisters Suzette and Kathy, and numerous brothers and sisters in-law, nieces, and nephews. Greg was predeceased by his mother and father, William and Marianne. Greg was a man of deep faith of whom many would say "walked the talk". On the morning of the accident as he walked to the boat he was whistling the hymn "Here I Am", the words of which are:

Refrain: Here I am, standing right beside you. Here I am; do not be afraid. Here I am, waiting like a lover. I am here; here I am.

Verse: Do not fear when the tempter calls you. Do not fear even though you fall. Do not fear, I have conquered evil. Do not fear, never be afraid.

Verse: I am here in the face of every child. I am here in every warm embrace. I am here with tenderness and mercy. Here I am , I am here.

Verse: I am here in the midst of every trial. I am here in the face of despair. I am here, when pardoning your brother. Here I am, I am here.

(Here I Am – text by Tom Booth, music by Tom Booth, arranged by Tom Booth, Ed Bolduc and Karen Bolduc)

A prayer service will be held at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church in Innisfail (4304 49th Ave.), on Tuesday, February 3rd at 7:00 pm. A funeral service will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Red Deer (6 McMillan Avenue) on Wednesday, February 4th at 1:00 pm. Interment at the Innisfail Cemetery with a luncheon to follow at the Innisfail Legion. If friends so desire, memorial tributes may be made to the Oblates of Mary Immaculate Mission in Chicaman, Guatemala. (O.M.I. Chicaman, Guatemala Mission, 601 Taylor St. West Saskatoon, SK. S7M 0C9) Condolences to the family may be forwarded from www.mem.com. Arrangements entrusted to Metcalf Funeral Chapel, 4200 49th Ave., Innisfail, AB. Phone: 403-227-3123. Proudly serving our community for over 45 years.

GRANT

Kurt Douglas Grant passed away suddenly on January 31, 2009 at the age of 52. He was born September 9, 1956 in High Prairie. His family lived in High Prairie, Smokey Lake, Bow Island, and Cardston before moving to Innisfail. He and his family moved to Innisfail in his teens, where he felt his home was. Kurt loved the outdoors, hunting and riding his bike. He was dedicated to his family and work. Kurt worked at Johns Manville for over 30 years. He will be lovingly missed by his parents Anne and Len Grant, brother, James, (Lee), two, sisters; Barb and Carol (Peter), his children, Kody (Linda), Kayli (Devon) Conn, Kyle, Justin, Kasandra, stepson Chris, Special Friends, Char Ek and Children, one grandchild Jenna,

seven nieces and nephews. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Kody for a Trust fund for Kyle, Justin, and Kasandra. A memorial service was held on February 6, 2009 at the Innisfail United Church. Condolences to the family may be forwarded from www.mem.com. Arrangements entrusted to Metcalf Funeral Chapel, 4200 49th Ave., Innisfail. Phone: 403-227-3123. Proudly serving our community for over 45 years.

PETERS

It is with deep sadness we announce the passing of Ron, our beloved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. Ron passed away Friday February 6, 2009, after a courageous battle with colon cancer, in the Red Deer Hospital with his family at his side. Ron was born in Valleyview, Alberta at his parent's homestead on May 29, 1936. He went to school in Calai, Alberta with best friends Joe and Fred Clough and Elsie Catt. Ron left school to go to work in construction and oil patch truck driving. Ron helped with the building of the highway between Valleyview and Grande Prairie. He loved his truck driving, casino, bargain finders, watching his grandsons play hockey and his granddaughter figure skate. Ron moved to High Level in 1967 to work for J & L oil sales and Flint Engineering. In 1978 he relocated to Innisfail. Here he worked for Ron Malcolm Trucking, Bevan Olstad Trucking, Ted Arthur Trucking and Ike's Trucking, with his friends Ron, Rodger, Randy, Bevan, Ted and Ike. Ron started his business, Rondor Pilot Service in 1979. Ron especially enjoyed his coffee time with his friend Lawrence. Ron leaves to mourn his wife, and loving partner of 43 years, Doreen. Also his beloved children Susie (Rusty), Heidi (Randy), Leslie (Rachele), Roger (Debbie), Armand (Heather), Marilyn, Marion, Betty (John), Rick (Monica), Brenda, Ronda (Bill). Thirty-two grandchildren and thirty-one great grandchildren. Also his brothers and sisters in law, Ken and Alice, Ted and Betty, Ted and Lorraine, numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his father in 1943, mother in 1984, sister Lavina in 1974, Brother Stanley in 1927, son Steve in 1990, daughter Cheryl in 2006, nephew Dale, son in law Mike and friends Ron Malcolm, Bevan Olstad, Les Ray. A memorial tea was held at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #104 on Tuesday February 17, 2009. If friends so desire, memorial tributes may be made to the Red Deer Section of the Canadian Cancer Society (4730 A Ross St. Red Deer, Alberta T4N 1X2) HEARTLAND FUNERAL SERVICES LTD. Innisfail Funeral Home & Crematorium, 4415- 49th St. Innisfail. Telephone 403-227-0006.

CHAMBERS

Ronald (Ron) Dale Chambers passed away suddenly February 15, 2009 at the age of 60. He was born December 16, 1948 to Amy and Henry Chambers in Drumheller, Alberta. He lived in Innisfail for over twenty years. Ron is survived by his brother William (Lesley) and nephews Allan, and Stuart. He was predeceased by his parents. Ron leaves to mourn special friend Mary Lou and family and all that knew him. Ron is to be cremated and his ashes scattered as per his wishes at a later date. As per Ron's request there will not be a memorial service.

CHATENAY

It is with profound sadness, that we announce the passing of our beloved wife, mother, grandmother and friend, Olive Chatenay (Anderson) after a valiant battle with cancer. On February 18th, 2009, she peacefully entered her savior's arms with her much-loved husband and children at her side. Olive was born October 5, 1946 in Innisfail, Alberta and was raised in the Big Bend community. She met her true love and future husband James

Chatenay at a 4-H dance in Ridgewood 50 years ago this week. She married Jim who remained a devoted and loving companion, husband and father. Olive lovingly raised 4 children, Mark (Linda Swift), Michael (Sharon Prozny), Tammy (Rob McFadden) and Chantal (Don Goyan) at their homestead in Ridgewood, Alberta. She was predeceased by her father Oliver Anderson and her second father Ernest P. Smith and is survived by her mother Katherine Smith (Munro), sisters Joyce (Bob Hurl) and Janet (Irvine Steinke), and brother Dennis (Carol Ritten). She is also survived by her 11 grandchildren Ryan, Jesse, Keaton, Hailey, Devin, Krysten, Jayden, Allison, Hannah, Paige and Cole whom she loved with all of her heart and soul. Her kind loving way touched all that were privileged to know her. She will be deeply missed. Her family wish to extend our sincere gratitude to the extraordinarily caring physicians, nurses and staff of the Cross Cancer Institute. Your caring compassion was a comfort and will be forever cherished by all. Memorial service was held Monday February 23, 2009 at 2 o'clock at the Innisfail Alliance Church, 25, 4804 42 Ave, Eastgate Mall, Innisfail, AB, with a reception to follow. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, 10665 Jasper Avenue, Suite 700 Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3S9.

COWIE

Mr. Danny Harold Cowie of Bowden passed away at his residence on February 16, 2009 at the age of 57 years. Danny is survived by his sister Linda Bryan (Ken) of Airdrie; three uncles Stan Cowie of New Westminster, Bruce Cowie of Surrey B.C. and Mike Sandes of Langley B.C.. He was predeceased by his mother Nina Johnston and father William Cowie in 2006. HEARTLAND FUNERAL SERVICES LTD. Innisfail Funeral Home & Crematorium, 4415 - 49th St. Innisfail. Telephone 403-227-0006.

ROOT

1927 - 2009

Mae Anne Root passed away on January 10, 2009 at Temicula, California. She was predeceased by her husband, John, son Tom Hawkins, grandson Rhyon, three brothers, Charlie, Clarence, and Bill. She is survived by one brother, Ron (Marion) Hawkins of Vancouver, British Columbia, Daughter - in-law Susan of Innisfail, one granddaughter Jill and two great granddaughter and many nieces and nephews. A private memorial services was held in Temicula on February 8, 2009.

ROSS

Donald James Ross passed away on Feb. 21, 2009 at the Innisfail Hospital at the age of 92. Don was predeceased by his father Thomas, mother Elsie, sister Evelyn and brothers Perry, Harry, Irvyn and Gordon. He will be missed by his brother Tommy (Lois) of Vernon, B.C.; his sister Mary of Chilliwack, B.C. and sister in law Joyce of Arkansas, USA and numerous nieces and nephews. Uncle Don was born on the Dickson Farm September 18, 1917. As a young man he worked for various farmers in the area. He took over the home place after the passing of his parents and continued to farm till early 1990. He then moved to Innisfail and stayed in his own home and was fortunate enough to be independent and enjoy his daily outings. A memorial service will be held on Friday, February 27, 2009 at 2:00 pm from Metcalf Funeral Chapel. Arrangements entrusted to Metcalf Funeral Chapel, 4200 49th Ave., Innisfail. Phone 403-227-3123. Proudly serving our community for over 45 years.
