

Francis R. Grealy

Sadly Frank passed away on January 28, 2021. He was predeceased by his 4 brothers, 6 sisters and his beloved daughter, Laurie. Frank is survived by his wife Marion; sons, Mark, Paul (Laura), Brent, Ryan (Janine) and Glen (Linda); grandchildren, Melissa, Katelyn (Rob), Kyle, Jordan, Kahlina (Jan), Braeden, Megan and adorable great-granddaughters, Lilian, Charlotte and Soule as well as many nieces and nephews here and across Canada.

Frank was born on March 7, 1929 in Newcastle England. He emigrated with his family to a farm near Edmonton that same year. He returned to England with his parents and the younger members of the family in 1936. Frank's father worked in Portsmouth during the war. Frank had vivid memories of the air raids and was evacuated twice with his sister and 2 brothers to a safer area. In 1947 Frank returned to Canada and came to Victoria with his brother Jim.

Soccer was Frank's passion and he immediately joined a soccer club and was involved in soccer as a player and coach for the next 40 years. He coached juvenile soccer in Gordon Head for 25 years and men's teams – Vic West, the O'Keefe's of the Pacific Coast League, Vic West United and the London Boxing club in the Island league. At one point he was coaching 2 juvenile teams and a men's team at the same time! Frank is in the Victoria Sports Hall of Fame as a player with Vic West and as a coach with the London Boxing Club when the team won the Canadian Championship and as a coach with the O'Keefe's when the team won the Kennedy Cup in 1967.

Frank worked for the Provincial Government and then the City of Victoria as the Data Processing Manager and set up the computer system. He then sold Life Insurance and PCs to small businesses.

Frank had “the gift of the gab” (his Irish heritage!) and enjoyed meeting people. In retirement, Frank enjoyed travelling with Marion especially to England and Ireland as he was researching his ancestry and he met many relatives he did not know he had.

Frank is remembered for his wry sense of humour, his welcoming nature and his readiness to lend a hand.

Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Thank-you to the staff at Bridgeview for their gentle care of Frank. If desired, donations may be made to the Alzheimer’s Society.

Rest in Peace Frank with Laurie by your side.

Condolences may be offered to the family below.

McCall Gardens

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