

Hans (Johannes Marinus Joseph) Teunissen

Hans (Johannes Marinus Joseph) Teunissen was born in Ottawa, Ontario August 24, 1953. He is survived by his loving wife Kim and two daughters he was proud to call his own- Tedra (Jamie) and Mahaila, and his grandson Kingston. Hans is also survived by his mother, Thresia and his three siblings Maion (Bill), Helmut (Vickie) and Lucien as well as a large extended family. Hans was predeceased by his father Johan.

Hans had a wonderfully happy life. He often loved talking about how much fun he had with his cousins growing up. They were a large gang and enjoyed building houseboats and tree-houses together, exploring in the woods and working at the family run lumber yard.

As a very young boy, Hans had a fascination with all things Chinese and harbored a secret desire to be a Missionary in The Far East. This desire was eventually realized in a way that he never imagined as a young boy. In 1974 Hans learned that God had a personal name- Jehovah- and this knowledge changed his life and started off his zealous search for truth.

Hans, being a very spiritual man, set goals for himself. He wanted to become a pioneer, serve as a ministerial servant, and to serve at the Canadian Branch and be a member of the Bethel family. He reached and treasured all these goals.

After reaching these goals, he wanted to satisfy his desire to be married and have a family. He met Kim and her girls in the summer of 1992 and married her the following March. He was a wonderful role model for his family and a loving father and best friend. He took great pride in raising two beautiful daughters. In time Hans was also appointed to serve as an Elder. Hans was often asked for advice and help as an Elder.

His best advice he often gave was " Do the loving thing."

In 2002 Hans and Kim were invited to move to Victoria, learn Chinese and help the fledging Chinese congregation there.

This was a huge privilege of service that Hans loved. Six years later Hans realized a goal that he had never hoped to attain. He and Kim were invited to serve as Special Pioneers in Trinidad and Tobago, serving the huge Chinese population there. This was a wonderful three years of life. It was while living in Trinidad that Hans was first diagnosed with cancer. He survived three surgeries for colon cancer within the span of four months. After his last surgery Hans said "Wow, I'm still alive. I want to serve in Asia and teach the people there about Jehovah ." After receiving an assignment for Asia, Hans and Kim went off to fulfill Hans' last goal.

Hans absolutely loved living in the Far East. He relished the life there, and loved riding his motorcycle to visit his students.

While living in Asia, Hans was diagnosed again with cancer. This time it was terminal. What made cancer so painful for Hans was that it hit when he was living the Life of his dreams. He said he was living the best life ever. No regrets.

Hans – wonderful teacher, sterling role model. Yes, he will be missed. Can't wait to see him again and say "well done". We will have so much to tell him then.

Funeral and tea to be held at:

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses

2780 Shelbourne Street

January 17th at 2:30

Teunissenfamily@gmail.com

McCall Bros. Funeral Home

www.mccallbros.com