

Istvan (Steve) Illi

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Steve on December 10th, 2019 at the age of 81 years in Victoria, BC. Steve leaves behind his beloved wife, Debbie of 33 years, his children Edward (Darlene), Richard (Deb), Susan (1984), Tricia (Andy) and Danielle. His grandchildren David (Laura), Natasha (Darragh), Ryan, Grace, and Cameron, as well as two great-grandchildren, Draydon and Evan.

Steve was born in Kaposvar, Hungary in 1938 and played professional soccer for the Hungarian National Team in Budapest. Steve defended his homeland during the Hungarian revolution of 1956 and was able to escape to Canada where he made a new life and career as a Journeyman commercial painter, with the last two decades as a Ship Repair Foreman at shipyards both in Vancouver and Victoria.

Steve was an avid outdoorsman who loved hunting, fishing and skiing later in his life. Steve's love of soccer also led him to coaching with the Lakehill Soccer club, to pass along his skills, knowledge and passion for the game. Steve really loved cars and was a Drag Race car driver with the Ford Motor Company which fulfilled his need for speed.

Although Steve has left us, he leaves behind a beautiful legacy that he had instilled within his family of Honour, Loyalty and an uncompromising work ethic.

We would like to acknowledge and humbly thank the staff at The Priory for their kindness, love and compassion that they showed to Steve daily in his time there.

A private family Memorial Service will be held at a later time to celebrate Steve's life.

Condolences may be offered to the family below.

McCall Gardens

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