

James Arthur Jeffery

James Arthur Jeffery, 66, of Victoria, BC, died peacefully at home on October 19, 2019 with his loving wife Sally at his side, both of them having shown incredible fortitude and grace while fighting the disease that would claim James' life.

James was born August 18, 1953 in London, England to Ken and Georgina (Perchuk) Jeffery and grew up in Harpenden where he excelled at mathematics and swimming. As a teen, scouting ignited James' adventurous spirit, a light that could not be extinguished even in his final weeks. While studying chemical engineering at Newcastle University, James discovered a passion for rock climbing and mountaineering which eventually led him to take a job in Paris for its proximity to the French Alps and later Alberta. On a fateful visit back to England, James met the love of his life, Sally Paxton, at a garden party.

A fervid romance followed and James soon proposed that Sally leave England and join him in starting a family in the shadow of the Canadian Rockies. Sally's acquiescence was shortly replaced with joy as she and James welcomed the first of four children into the world. Dedication and love guided his actions as a husband and father serving as a soccer coach, scout leader, dance dad, Sunday School director, hockey manager, ski instructor, hiking companion. Rarely did he miss a dance performance, band recital, or any opportunity to celebrate his children's many achievements.

James was proud to be a Professional Engineer and enjoyed a successful career in the energy sector. An early employee of AEC, and later Encana, his impeccable work ethic was highly respected amongst colleagues. He lived happily in Calgary where weekend adventures into the mountains would often be punctuated with Sunday roasts and hearty red wine. In 2012, James and Sally retired to Victoria, BC where they took

delight in exploring cobble beaches and developing their garden.

Having raised a loving and close-knit family and maintained many good friends, their house was never in want of visitors in spite of the geographical inconvenience. Sadly, a happy retirement was cut short when James contracted a rare and advanced form of cancer which he would fight bravely with the support of his beloved wife and family for over 3 years.

James is survived by his wife Sally of 38 years, sons Robert (Joanna), Thomas (Julia), Jonathan (Jenna), daughter Kaitlin, brothers Charles (Rizia), Peter (Mary), sister Mary Ann (David) and by many nieces and nephews. James was a proud grandfather to Claire, Paxton, Isla, Theodore, and Violet. James was predeceased by parents, Ken and Georgina.

A Memorial Service will be held at Christ Church Cathedral in Victoria, BC on November 4, 2019 at 3:00 pm PST.

Memorial donations may be made to the Royal Jubilee Hospital, where James received exceptional care during these past years.

Condolences may be offered to the family below.

McCall Gardens

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