Matthew Oliver O'Connell

June 5, 1972 – July 7, 2014

Predeceased by infant brother Luke (1977) and by beloved grandparents Una O'Connell (2004), Victor (2011) and Alice (2013) McFarlane, Matthew leaves to cherish his memory spouse Shannon Bjarnason, children Aidan and Nuala, parents Jim and Rosemary, sister Isobel, brother Paul, grandfather Bill O'Connell (UK), father-in-law Rick Bjarnason, mother-in-law Judy Van Goor, sister-in-law Kristen Sanderson, along with extended family throughout England, Ireland, Wales and the US.

Matthew's family was of paramount importance to him. The strength of the emotional bond between Aidan and Nuala and their "Momma" and "Poppa" – an emotional closeness often remarked on by others – grew from and was continually nourished by the warmth of the affection in which Matthew and Shannon bathed their children.

Matthew was a gregarious, hard-working man. His regard for and trust in his business partner, Alistair Whiteside, contributed significantly to the satisfaction he found in his working life. A graduate of Monterey Elementary and Oak Bay High Schools, Matthew leaves life-long friends throughout Vancouver Island. The family appreciates their warmth and kindness at this time.

There will be a private service of interment for family members on Friday July 18. In addition, at 3:00pm on Saturday July 19, there will be a celebration of Matthew's life at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to The Society of St Vincent de Paul – long a part of Matthew's business and family life – or to the charity of your choice.
Condolences may be offered to the family below.

McCall Bros. Funeral Home

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