



George Diveky

George was born Zsolt Alexander Wilmos Bernard Maria de Diveky-Bezsilla, in Budapest in 1941. After living with his mother in Austria, Switzerland and Italy, when he came to Toronto in 1951 he chose to be called George Diveky, just like his father, because they were now in Canada. George finished school and started university in Ontario. He loved basketball, and his team won the Ontario Provincial Championship for two years in a row. When he was 20 he lived in Paris for half a year, and then hitchhiked all the way to India and then down eastern and southern Africa from Mombasa to Cape Town.

When he got back to Canada, after all those adventures, he went to Teachers' College in London, Ontario and that is where he met Janet. They married, moved north for the first of their Arctic adventures together, moving westward teaching and loving life in Kuujjuak, Inukjuak, Kugaarjuk, Kugluktuk, Yellowknife, Rankin Inlet, and Edzo, interspersed with years at the Universities of Toronto and British Columbia. In Kugluktuk, they welcomed Eva into the family, and in Yellowknife, Andrew.

George's training as an anthropologist took him on field trips to Baffin Island and Northern Quebec, and he became fluent in three dialects of Inuktitut. He was responsible for writing the first Northern Studies Curriculum. He was a keen classical guitarist, acted in, staged and directed several successful amateur plays that were widely acclaimed by Yellowknife audiences. He was a skilled and knowledgeable sailor, cruising the length and breadth of Great Slave Lake. His extensive knowledge of submerged reefs earned him the nickname "Captain Crunch".

For seven years he spent the winters on sailing vessel Susie in the Sea of Cortez, and then four years ago he switched, with Janet, to cruising life on trawler Susie. He loved the beauty of Baja California, the company of fellow-cruisers, and the kindness and help of many Mexican friends.

We will remember George for his kindness, generosity, wit and humour.

He leaves to remember him a circle of loving friends and keen cruising companions, cousins Sylvia and Andrew in Toronto, as well as extended family in Italy and South Africa.

We thank the Yellowknife Coast Guard, EMS, Dr. McPhail and Dr. Kraft and the emergency room crew at Stanton Regional Hospital, Brian and Brett, the Medivac crew, and Dr. Turnbull, Dr. Carney and Dr. Duggan, and ICU nurses Joseph and Marco of the Grey Nuns Hospital. We also thank Janice McKenna and Chaplain Marjorie Charest for supporting us.

Arrangements by McKenna Funeral Home, Yellowknife – www.mckennafuneral.com