

Harry Patrick O'Keefe III

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Harry Patrick O'Keefe III; a loving husband, devoted father and passionate liver of life.

Harry was born in Scarborough, ON in 1948. As a young adult he worked in aquatics and recreation and this brought him to Yellowknife with his future wife, Debbi in 1979. They married in 1982 and had 2 children.

Harry found his true home in Canada's North and over the next 35 years had a wide and varied career: he worked for the City of Yellowknife at Fraser Tower Pool and in Community Services, as a DJ at CJCD and as a Senior Administrative Officer in Nunavut and the NWT before returning to Yellowknife. Harry then ran his own consulting business across the NWT and Nunavut for the next 15 years.

Harry had many passions including ballroom dancing, cooking, French, travel, history, golfing and collecting wine. He was a fanatical fisherman and was most at home on the shores of Great Slave Lake. He loved practical jokes and lived his life to the fullest.

Harry died surrounded by his family on April 21, 2011 after suffering a spontaneous brain hemorrhage. He is survived by his wife Debbi (Ross), his daughter Brie and son Harry Jr., brothers Tim and Kevin and sister Kathleen (Mansfield). He was predeceased by his mother, Kathleen (Pamplin) in 1996 and his mother-in-law, Lesley Ross in 2007. He was dearly loved by his family and will be desperately missed by his friends and colleagues across the North.

A memorial will be held at Northern United Place on Tuesday May 3, 2011 at 2:30pm, followed by a wake and celebration of life at the Top Knight at 7pm. The family asks that in lieu of flowers donations be made to the Garden of Hope Society, P.O. Box 1391, Yellowknife NT X1A 2P1.

