Stephen was born and raised in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory. He completed his formal education in Vancouver, British Columbia. He then enrolled in McGill University where he studied and received his law degree, specializing in Corporate and Business law. Stephen also received his Masters in Montreal and worked with an accounting firm before moving to Hay River where he joined the law firm of Boyd & Company in 1984.

Stephen eventually opened his own private practice in Hay River, and later in Yellowknife, and practiced his profession for over 27 years. He left private practice and moved to Iqaluit, Nunavut, where he worked with the Legal Services Board of Nunavut until May 2016. Stephen was diagnosed with cancer and decided retirement was in order.

Stephen & his wife Judith had made their retirement home in Florida, USA, and prior to his retirement, Stephen divided his time between the two locations.

Stephen was well known for his thorough and conscientious concerns for his client’s welfare and was also known for his good humour and generosity to all.

He will be missed by his many friends and associates, especially those from his time of living in the North.

Stephen is predeceased by his parents, Frederick & Anna May (McCann) Shabala, and is survived by his loving wife Judith Metcalf, daughter Carriff Shabala and cousin Michael McCann, and family in Ireland.

Stephen’s wish was to be cremated and his ashes to be spread on the farm his mother spent her childhood on in Ireland.

May his kind heart rest in peace.