



Carol Ann Charlebois

August 11, 1942 - December 31, 2021

Carol Ann Ruth White (Charlebois)

August 11, 1942 – December 31, 2021

It is with great sadness that we share with you the news of the passing of Carol Ann Charlebois. She passed peacefully in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She is predeceased by her father Albert Joseph Philip Charlebois and mother, Kathleen Elizabeth Charlebois (nee Vail). She is survived by her loving husband, Paul, partner of 38 years. She is also survived by sister Betty Jill Chapelski, brothers Chris, Peter, and Kevin Charlebois, and her nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephew. She was born in Ottawa and lived in a number of other Canadian cities including Toronto and Richmond, BC, eventually settling in Halifax where she met Paul.

Carol studied Political Science at UBC earning her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degree there. She then went to York University where she received her PhD in Political Science. After, she went on to teach at St. Mary's University and Dalhousie University. Carol then found her calling working as Executive Director at Metro Non-Profit Housing Association in Halifax for almost 30 years making a significant impact in the lives of many people experiencing homelessness. She championed the recovery-oriented approach called "Housing First" which provides supports, homes and services for these people. For this work, she received her Degree of Doctor of Canon Law in

2014 from the University of King's College as well as the Queen's Jubilee Medal in 2012. Carol Ann's caring heart and passion for her community helped so many.

Carol loved her pets, and had many, including her beloved Daisy who passed away recently. She had a passion for gardening, growing many plants from seeds collected from her travels, which complemented her great interest and expertise in photography. Anyone who has been in her home or seen her photos has seen her keen eye for subjects, with her skills blossoming through her photo courses.

Carol always treated others with kindness, respect and dignity. She never refused a phone call from anyone. She was such a thoughtful person and was known for choosing the perfectly appropriate gift. Carol was an environmentalist before her time and in Paul's words, "always made sure things were done right."

Cremation has taken place and a memorial service will take place at a later date. Please share your favourite memory of Carol at www.harboursidecremation.ca. If so desired, you can make a donation to a charity of your choice or do a random act of kindness in her memory.

Previous Events

Service

AUG 11. 1:00 PM (AST)

St. Patrick's Church
2263 Brunswick St.
Halifax, NS B3K 2Y9 (CA)

Tribute Wall

BC

“ I was shocked to learn of Carol's death and to read that it had occurred on the last day of 2021. The timing on a day of revelry and reflection must have been hard on her husband and family, although come to think of it, New Year's Eve might have been entirely apt for her. I met Carol through photography. She had a refined eye for seeing photographs, and she always seemed to produce stunning images. I remember one in particular: a portrait of one of her organization's homeless clients. It was shot, with his permission of course, from the back with his pet tarantula, super sharp and detailed, perched a little off his shoulder. It was a captivating image and as a portrait it spoke volumes about the person in the picture, although he remained faceless. She had a knack for picking up on the details of life around her, took pleasure in them, enjoyed photographing them, and thinking about them. For her, I suspect, photography was in part a meditative experience. The last few times I encountered her, before the pandemic put an end to Creative Photography classes, she was exploring floral and vegetative image making using a lightbox and getting some beautiful results. Her humanity, kind nature and generous spirit, so present in her demeanour, found their way into her photographs. A lot of people, both known and unexpected, I feel sure, will miss her very much. She was one of those people who brought light to others and lifted them up. My sincerest condolences to her husband, Paul, her family, and to all those who knew, liked and loved her.

Betsy Chambers

Betsy Chambers - February 01, 2022 at 09:00 PM

DC

“ I am very saddened to hear of Carol’s passing & I wish to extend my deepest condolences to her family.

I feel very privileged & fortunate to have shared some of Carol’s relaxing time through our mutual passion for photography. We enjoyed many photography courses, field trips chatting as we hiked, Exhibition viewings & Print Reviews & I always learned something from her unique creative style. I was always blown away by her beautiful prints of flowers from her garden as well as her dog Daisy. We shared a love of our dogs, caring for them as they aged & challenges of photographing them. I shall always remember you Carol. May You Rest In Peace.

Debby Currie

Debby Currie - February 01, 2022 at 12:07 AM

JF

“ Paul, I want to express my sincere heartfelt condolences on the passing of your wonderful wife Carol. I had the opportunity to network with Carol over the years as we worked to deliver affordable housing to the residents of the HRM.

Rest In Peace Carol, John Fleming

John Fleming - January 21, 2022 at 11:19 AM

LF

“ I met Carol through the Morris House project, the cooperative effort of several groups to provide housing for youth in transition, in a heritage building. We counted on Carol, as the person with the experience to create a supportive home environment, to guide that aspect of the project. But Carol did much more: as the face of MNPHA, she kept us aware of the end users and their needs. Her good sense, patience, and resilience encouraged us when we stumbled over roadblocks; there were many. Possibly her greatest contribution, beyond the hard work she put into grant writing and negotiating, was her modelling of respectful discussion in the face of conflict.

How apt that we are all remembering Carol when there is a housing crisis and civility is often strained.

Rest in peace, Carol.

Linda Forbes

Linda Forbes - January 14, 2022 at 05:13 PM

CD

“ Our heartfelt condolences to Paul and the family Carol will surely be missed by all who knew her.

From Carman and Stevie Downey

Carman Downey - January 13, 2022 at 07:29 AM

TK

“ Paul, our heartfelt condolences, Todd and Sonja (Kidston Creek Farm).

Todd and Sonja Kidston - January 12, 2022 at 08:10 PM

GE

“ Carol & myself have had the occasional disagreements I am extremely head strong with my opinions. Carol was so busy, she would listen to your view and inform you of her conclusion. Then she would flee rapidly. So one day during a casual conversation when she had more time to spare, she said for when i have to cut our conversations short i'm sorry. I told her i understood, that she had very little time to spare daily. Also said when this happens i call this the Mother goose slip as she is rapidly distancing herself from me. Then i laugh and assured her i never have taken offense to these encounters. Carol has a very good sense of humor as well. She laughed and smiled expressing her wonderful sense of humor. Also i realized as well that i kept to myself that Carol's number one priority daily that took up most her time was making sure we were all taken care of. She loved us all. I loved her as well and was privileged to have known an angel from above. Remember you always Carol. My deepest sympathy to Paul her family and all of the people who loved her. G.Erskine.

Gary Erskine - January 11, 2022 at 04:49 PM

LM

“ Dear Paul & family. Our trip to the vet with Ziggy & Sookie my cats. Ziggy only took to very few people and that day not to the vet herself now protected by thick handling gloves. Carol retrieved Ziggy from under a table and because of Ziggy's love for Carol her appointment was a success. Carol as we all knew of her love for animals as well. saved the day. The experience eventually led to our laughter about the ordeal after the tension subsided. Carol was so full of love of people, animals and all of the beauty surrounding her. I will miss you and always remember you Love, Lori.

Lori Macdonald - January 11, 2022 at 04:05 PM

SN

“ Dear Paul, I'm so sorry to hear of Carol's passing. I know you shared a beautiful life together and I'll always remember her many, many orchids. Blessings to you from me, Sherry Norton

Sherry Norton-Brunelle - January 11, 2022 at 01:46 PM

DD

“ Carol was a priceless soul devoted to her calling of helping those who were voiceless and assisting them to be heard in the field of homelessness and how to address it actively. My wife, Ann, and I were privileged to work with her as Board Members of Welcome Housing. We wish all family members our profound condolences. Kindest regards, David and Ann Divine.

David Divine - January 11, 2022 at 10:27 AM

DH

“ I was very sorry to learn today of Carol's passing. For some 15 years it was my pleasure and privilege, as a member, and (for several years) chair, of the Board of Metro Non-Profit, to work closely with Carol as we sought ways of achieving the goals she had set for the organization. My affiliation with MNPHA, (now of course, Welcome Housing), was principally through my membership of the Rotary Club of Halifax Northwest, an organization that was pleased and proud to provide support in many ways, including funding, hands-on projects, and even singing with the Shining Lights choir!. We were sufficiently impressed by Carol's achievements and contribution that the Club chose to recognize Carol as a 'Paul Harris Fellow', the highest award that a Rotary Club can bestow on a member of the community. This was not only to recognize what she had accomplished, but how! In particular her very special relationship with, and indeed love for, the people in her charge. Rest in peace, Carol. We shall miss you!

Dick Hodgson - January 10, 2022 at 06:53 PM

BM

Thank you Dick for your words. They are a comfort indeed. Beth Mclsaac

Beth Mclsaac - January 10, 2022 at 09:01 PM

LM

“ *The Board of Directors and staff of Welcome Housing and Support Services are deeply saddened by the news of Carol's passing. Welcome Housing was founded as Metro Non-Profit Housing Association by Carol and others in 1988 and served as its Executive Director for 31 years, retiring in 2019. This will be a legacy she leaves behind. Carol was well known, and beloved, in the housing community as a passionate advocate for the basic human right to affordable and safe housing - she was a fearless leader and a friend, always, to Welcome Housing. Carol is spoken of often, remembered fiercely, and will never be forgotten.*

Laura MacKay - January 10, 2022 at 12:01 PM

HH

“ *So sad to hear of Carols passing. I spoke to Carol on numerous occasions professionally and really enjoyed our conversations. My condolences to her family.*

Heather Halfyard - January 10, 2022 at 08:27 AM

EB

“ *I was heart-broken to hear of Carol's passing. i knew her for years, through her photography, both as a mentor, and a peer. Her brilliant creativity and clear perception of the world around her never failed to amaze me, and gave insight into the sensitive, caring person behind the camera. I will forever treasure the beauty she shared through her eyes, and know I will carry her memory with me always.*

Eric Boutilier-Brown - January 10, 2022 at 08:14 AM

MM

“ WE the tenants of Buddy Day would like to extend our sincerest condolences to Carol's family, especially Paul. She was a wonderful, kind and thoughtful person who helped each of us in her special way. WE never felt like We were ever alone, because WE always had Carol to listen and guide us, even when times were difficult for her. She was an angel sent to us from above and her wings covered each of us and lifted us up when we needed it. Carol will be sadly missed by each of us, but every time we do a good deed for someone WE will do it in Carol's name, the same way she did it for us. Thanks you for sharing Carol with us. WE hope you find comfort in all the memories and positive thoughts we have about Carol. WE share in your grief and loss.

Take care,
Murdena (Lorrie), Gary and the tenants of Buddy Day.

Murdena MacDonald - January 09, 2022 at 10:03 AM

BM

Beautiful! Murdena and Gary and all the Buddy Daye Tenants, Beth

Beth McIsaac - January 09, 2022 at 04:34 PM

CB

“ I was honored to work with Carol for many years. She had such a quiet strength and determination. She made a difference in so many lives. My condolences to the family. Carrie Boudreau

Carrie Boudreau - January 09, 2022 at 09:04 AM

BN

“ For Carol...

Troubadour

*She was a great one
Amongst the marginal and oppressed
Prioritizing them
As if her own
She would give and be and know
Their songs
And help them sing them*

*Finding their voice and
Making sure they had their needs met.
All in due course they would find that they were graced with a gift
that endured.*

*A home more than a house and a community and neighborhood of
belonging.*

A friend indeed; rest in peace.

Beth Nclsaac

Beth Nclsaac - January 08, 2022 at 07:24 PM

JS

“ Dear Paul,

So sad to hear of Carol's death. I sort of thought she would live forever. It was such news even when she retired. I believe that your love for her helped make it possible for her to reach out to so many. my sympathy.

Love and prayers,

Joan

Joan O'Keefe sc - January 08, 2022 at 06:46 PM

JP

“ To: Paul. I have known Carol personally. She managed units in Dartmouth North where her great work around helping people in desperate need of specialized shelter was paramount. In fact, I knew many of the residents fortunate enough to have someone like Carol help them through their needs.

“ Let it be known,” that Carol is truly deserving of all the acknowledgements bestowed upon her.

In Faith: Jerry & Marion Pye

Jerry & Marion Pye - January 08, 2022 at 05:39 PM