



David Alexander Horne

May 22, 1942 - September 11, 2023

David Alexander Horne, 81, of Halifax, NS, passed away on Sept 11, 2023. He will be celebrated and missed by his family and friends.

David was born at the Grace Maternity Hospital in Halifax on May 22, 1942, to parents Catherine Edith (nee Alexander) and Reginald Frederick Horne. He arrived just ahead of his twin brother Kenneth Hugh Horne.

For the first few years, David grew up in the north end of Halifax attending Mulgrave Park School. However, for the majority of his childhood and teenage years he lived on Preston St. Attending first Le Marchant St Elementary School (1949-53), then Cornwallis Jr. High (1953-56) and finally Queen Elizabeth High School (1956-59).

David then went on to university at Dalhousie, eventually obtaining a Master of Science degree in Chemistry in 1965. Later that year he moved to UBC to study Education. In 1966, he returned to Halifax to teach Chemistry at Queen Elizabeth High School but moved on after one year (David had a passion for teaching but he was drawn to less traditional “classrooms”).

David had a number of careers. In 1967, he accepted a research job as a Chemist at the Fisheries Research Board Lab in Halifax. In 1972, he was appointed Executive Director of the Canadian Youth Hostels Association-

Maritime Region. David was appointed Development Co-ordinator for Canoe Nova Scotia and Alpine Ski Nova Scotia in 1982. Then, in 1985, David became the manager of Marivac Ltd. (owned by his late friend and mentor Dick James). He worked there until his retirement in 2001.

While his career was important to him, his life is best remembered through two things: his loving marriage to Norma (nee Young) and his passion for the outdoors and recreation.

David and Norma met at Point Pleasant Park at an orienteering meet on June 16, 1972. They were married on April 21, 1973 and just this year celebrated 50 years together. They had countless adventures over the years, including many with their two sons, Matthew and Andrew.

David was happiest outside. As a boy, he was a member of Cubs and Scouts and he received his Queen's Scout Award in 1960. He was an avid paddler and was awarded the first Fred Lynch Award in recognition of his contribution to recreational paddling in 1983, and was President of Canoe Nova Scotia from 1987-89. David loved teaching paddling and instructed at Canoe Nova Scotia Provincial Instructor School at Camp Mockingee the first week in July for a number of years beginning in 1978.

His love for the outdoors kept him involved in many ways. He was a founding member of the Orienteering Association of Nova Scotia, Canoe Nova Scotia, and the Association of Outdoor Nova Scotians. He was also a member of the Executive Committee of Nordic Ski Nova Scotia, and Chair of the Nova Scotia Outdoor Leadership Development Program Committee.

His kids' love for soccer translated into David founding the Halifax City Wanderers Kick-a-Round in 1990. This is a weekly game meant for adults new to the game or those looking to rediscover soccer once again. While

David hung up his soccer cleats a few years ago, the Kick-a-Round continues on to this day. David was also heavily involved in soccer referee development.

David continued his passion for outdoor pursuits by golfing in his later years. He was a proud member of Ashburn Golf Club and dutifully calculated statistics for the Masters group there for many years.

David is survived by his wife Norma, his children Matthew (Sarah MacKinnon) and Andrew (Carrie Roberts) along with four grandchildren (Eila, Farley, Sammy and Mae) and extended family. David was a great person, husband, father, grandfather and friend. He led by quiet example but was a leader nonetheless. He will be missed.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made either to Feed Nova Scotia, or a charity of your choice. A contribution to Soccer Nova Scotia (SNS) in support of referee development would also be welcome, but note SNS is not a charity.

A gathering for family and friends will be held at a later date. For a more complete obituary please visit www.harboursidecremation.ca/obituaries/

Tribute Wall

JB

“ Norma & family, my deepest condolences to you all. I was fortunate to know Dave through refereeing soccer; I had the great benefit of being mentored by him as I started somewhere back in the late 1990s and over the years after. I remember Dave offering truly constructive and thoughtful feedback grounded from a place of helping young referees develop and making the sport better overall. Thinking of you all,
Jennifer

Jennifer Bawden - October 17, 2023 at 06:04 PM

MB

“ My sincerest condolences on your loss. I had the privilege of working with Dave in the late 80's / early 90's and learned a tremendous amount from him. He was great to work with and a pleasure to be around.

Michael Burke - October 04, 2023 at 08:14 AM

BH

“ My sympathies to you and the family Norma after hearing of your loss.
I was immediately struck by the comment that Dave was "a quiet leader, but a leader nonetheless." So true!
I was able to witness (and benefit from) Dave's contribution to the soccer community through his refereeing and mentorship program for officials, and particularly for organizing the kick-a-round. He accomplished such a lot in such a quiet and friendly manner.
Thanks Dave - we will miss you!

Bruce Higgins

Bruce Higgins - September 22, 2023 at 10:21 PM

SQ

“ Our condolences to you and your family Norma. Appreciate his kindness and work to support the soccer community, referees in particular.

Scott Quinn - September 22, 2023 at 08:29 AM

DV

“ Norma, Matt & Andrew....you are in all our thoughts and prayers as you deal with the loss of a really super husband & father...and friend. He gave off himself so graciously to the world of soccer, and many people benefited from his generous spirit and love for the game. I met Dave in the old Dutch Village Wanderers days. He was instrumental in organizing a bunch of guys to 'kick around' which began some 20+ years ago and still exists today. I enjoyed the few games of golf we got to play together. He was a true gent and a friend who you could always rely on....Hope to see him on the pitch in another place and another time! RIP Dave.....David Viscount

David Viscounte - September 21, 2023 at 10:13 PM

RK

“ It brings me great sadness to hear of Dave's passing. He was a true gentleman. I first met Dave in 1997 when I began reffing soccer. He had a quiet leadership that was intrinsically motivated by a desire to make everyone around him better. After a period of several years of not seeing Dave, I was delighted to run into Dave and Norma at a Wanderers game over the summer and catch up. My heartfelt sympathies to you, Norma, and family.

Rob Kennedy - September 21, 2023 at 08:51 PM

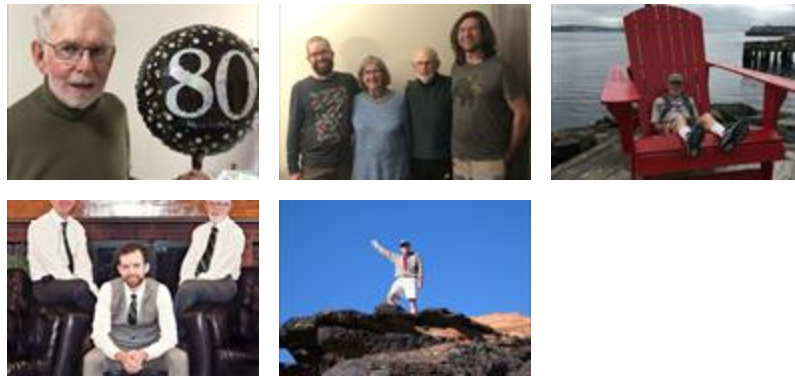
JF

“ I first met Dave officially when I started reffing in 2006. His mentorship, to me was done in such a pleasant manner, so very positive, just being Dave.
Short time later I was playing in his KAR group, and like many so grateful to Dave for organizing this group.
Norma and family thank you for sharing Dave with us.
May he rest In peace

Joe Fougere - September 21, 2023 at 08:01 AM

AD

“ 20 files added to the album Memories



ADMIN - September 20, 2023 at 08:16 AM

GB

“ My sincere sympathies to Norma and the family. Dave and I go back to our days in the chemistry labs at Dalhousie, 1963-1965. A Haligonian, he was a good friend to out-of-town students like myself, and remained so by correspondence ever since.

Gerry Brydon - September 19, 2023 at 10:31 PM

PM

“ Our sincere condolences to you and your family Norma.

Penny McIsaac - September 17, 2023 at 02:50 PM

CH

“ *My sincere sympathies to you, Norma. I have fond memories of Dave both on and off the soccer pitch in his roles as referee and mentor. You had a beautiful life together.*

Cathy Hope - September 17, 2023 at 09:20 AM

SD

“ *We share your grief at the loss of our dear brother in law and uncle. We're so happy that David was able to have wonderful vacation time with Matthew and Andrew and their families this summer, as well as Kimberley and family up from Virginia. Our love to you all from David, Sharon, Kimberley, Chris and families.*

Sharon and David - September 17, 2023 at 08:37 AM

SM

“ *Norma and family, Richard and I were so sorry to hear about David. Richard met David through soccer and so enjoyed his conversations with Dave. Blessing to all of you.
Sheila and Richard*

Sheila MacDonald - September 16, 2023 at 12:40 PM

SH

“ *David Horne (Mr. Horne to us) was the soft-spoken fatherly figure our friend group grew up with and looked up to. His manner was always even and broad. He was deeply good natured and took more than his fair share of adolescent ribbing from our part that I believe he knew was our developing way of showing our appreciation and love for him. My personal memories of him include of course the irreplaceable Nordic track, his indomitable fitness overall, and his simple way of explaining soccer and all of the subtleties of the game I might otherwise have missed. Perhaps his best legacy of course is his two sons that he and Norma raised with such joy to become caring and deep souls themselves. More than any figure I knew growing up, Mr. Horne was the one who made me think most about Canada and its environment and ecology. Thank you for that sir. Your memory will live on in my classroom and we will honour your passing. May you rest in peace, and may your warmth always be known by your closest loved ones. Mrs. Horne, you have my sincerest condolences. Stephen Hare.*

Stephen Hare - September 15, 2023 at 06:50 PM



“ *Norma, Matt and Andrew, I was so sad to read this.. It seems like just a few weeks ago I saw you walking down the street, together. Dave was a great resource as I came up as a ref and we shared many games together from Under 12 to Senior Men's. I am still amazed at your stamina running the lines or getting around an energetic U 16 Boys match with a smile on his face. Or when I was coaching just having to turn to my bench with a grin and say, I don't think he saw that one. Dave, rest well and I am praying for your family. Dave Fin*

David Finlayson - September 15, 2023 at 04:44 PM

SD

“ Norma and family, my sincere sympathy to you all. David was a wonderful person,.I was privileged to know him through Youth Hostels ,where he did so much to build the local organization, even writing the history of Hostelling in Nova Scotia, and then at Marivac, working with Dick James and I. He such a kind ,patient person, in my last email contact with him he was giving me advice to pass on to my brother who was going through prostate cancer treatment, hoping his experience might help someone else.

My thoughts are with you all at this very sad time.

Shirley Dean

Shirley Dean - September 15, 2023 at 04:21 PM

DH

“ I have just returned to Halifax after many years living abroad. Yesterday I drove past LeMarchant school and onto Preston St. - and my first thought was David and Ken Horne - the twins!! I grew up on Larch St and my birthday is June 1, 42. I recall many great times of shared experiences growing up in that neighbourhood. My sympathies to his and Ken's families David Hills

David Hills - September 15, 2023 at 02:52 PM

RD

“ Norma Another of those names from your's and David's past. Being hostilers we often met at Wentworth. We took our canoe instructors from David at Frog Pond. Orienteered and Cross Country skied with him on many occasions. Assisted with the development of the Outdoor Leadership- Navigation Module and with him taught the module for many years.
We will miss him greatly.
Our condolences to you and your family

Ron & Ann Day

Ron Day - September 15, 2023 at 02:11 PM

BG

“ Norma - a voice from the past (consumer van days) here. Please accept my deep condolences on the death of David. The timing is never right for the death of a loved one. Take care of yourself.
Barbara Goit

barbara Goit - September 15, 2023 at 12:54 PM

MO

“ Our deepest sympathy to Norma and family. I first met Dave at the Fisheries Research Board in the late 60s and then through orienteering, cross-country skiing, and our paths crossed again at Ashburn golf club. He did a lot of good work for numerous organisations and he will be missed.
All best wishes
Mary-Jane and Dan O'Halloran

Mary-Jane O'Halloran - September 15, 2023 at 10:24 AM

RB

“ Hi There

I am Dr Robert Bethune DTh. The family likely would not know me but when I was attending Dalhousie University getting my BSc Biology/ Chemistry, I worked at thr Fisheries Inspection Laboratory on Lower Water Street. Dave was one of my supervisors. Such a pleasant man, quiet but lots of dry humor which I loved. I worked with Fred Rahey and also Doug Brannen, names you may remember. By the way I was at QEHS from 1966 to 1969. My deepest condolences to the whole family.

Robert Bethune - September 15, 2023 at 10:04 AM

DB

“ *I will always be gratefful to Dave. He hired me to work on the year-round Halifax Hostel project in 1977, and we formed a connection. He told me in early 1978 about a group leader job opening up with Katimavik in Wentworth, which included some renovations at the Hostel. I got that job, and went on to do four years with Katimavik. I was able to move into social work with that background, and thus Dave was instrumental in my career. Norma, I recall meeting you back then, and I wish you peace as you grieve. Bless you all,
Dominic Boyd*

DOMINIC BOYD - September 15, 2023 at 09:11 AM

BH

“ *Norma and family Helen &I offer our deepest sympathy on the passing of David .*

David was a great person who contributed a lot to community and organizations .

David played an important role in the organizing of the Horn family family reunion in Eastern passage.

David will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Bob Horne - September 15, 2023 at 08:01 AM

JR

“ *Dear Norma, Extending deepest sympathy to you and your family. David was such a familiar face at Ashburn and he will be missed by his Gasper/Masters group.*

jill rafuse - September 15, 2023 at 07:37 AM

HR

“ *I'm stunned! I'm ever so sorry Norma.....memories and reflections over a friendship of 57 years....there are many. My heartfelt sympathy to you and the family. Horace*

Horace Randall - September 15, 2023 at 03:36 AM