



Kevin Albert Stephens

February 11, 1957 - April 16, 2026

We regret to announce the passing of our husband, brother, uncle and friend Kevin Albert Stephens of Cole Harbour, after a brave battle with Glioblastoma. He passed away peacefully at home with family and his beloved fur babies. Kevin was born February 11, 1957, to the late Raymond Joseph Stephens and Rose Marie (Ross) Stephens. Kevin was born in the Ashby area of Sydney and spent much of his younger years there before moving to Hardwood Hill with his parents and siblings. He is survived by his common-law wife who he adored, Anne Ogilvie; his children, Diana (Jon) Trider and Bradley (Katie) Stephens; and Anne's children Evan and Kathleen (Charlotte). He is also survived by his siblings Blair, Darcy (Lisa), Michele (Chris), Raymond and Raylene and many nieces and nephews, cousins and friends, and the mother of his children and first wife, Levonna (MacDonald) Stephens. He shared a particularly close bond with his little sister Raylene and her boys

Mitchell and

Trevor.

How do you tell the story of a life that lasted 69 years with more travel and adventure

than most people could dream of having in just a few short paragraphs? Well here

goes.

Kevin was a true sea farer and knew he would spend his life at sea from the time he

was very young, joining the sea cadets in 1969. When he graduated high school from

Sydney Academy in 1975, he went straight to the recruiting office and enlisted for the

Royal Canadian Navy and left for basic training at Cornwallis that same summer of

1975. His adventures were just beginning.

After graduating Cornwallis as a Marine Engineer, he was stationed to the HMCS Fraser

before moving on to the HMCS Onondaga, HMCS Ojibwa and HMCS Okanogan. Kevin

was a staunchly proud submariner and rose to the rank of Chief Petty Officer First Class

at an early age. Over the course of his Naval career, he had the opportunity to travel

the world and have opportunities and adventures that could fill novels. He was well

loved and respected by his shipmates and fellow submariners, affectionally known as

“Effie” and made lifelong friendships that remained until the day he passed.

Upon ending his Naval career, Kevin was employed with Halifax Shipyard before

moving on to the Queen's Harbour Master which would eventually become the Kings

Harbour Master. He served on the Tug Boats as Chief Engineer and often sailed with

the research vessel CFAV Quest for voyages in various engineering positions.

He joined

CFAV Quest officially as their Senior Engineer in 2008 and made epic voyages to

places such as Greenland and the Arctic and all through Europe and the South. There

is an amazing video on YouTube called "Life at sea on CFAV Quest" of his crossing from

Europe across our brutal and rough Atlantic seas. He retired in August 2023 as Chief

Engineer.

Kevin was an avid motorcycle enthusiast with a soft spot for old cranky British Bikes that

broke down as much as they ran. Fortunately, Kevin could also repair anything. He

was a true engineer and there wasn't much that could stop him from making a bike

rideable again. He also loved old British and German cars and of course his Triumphs

and BMW motorcycles. Anyone who knows Kevin has probably spent time broken down

on the side of the road somewhere while he tried to fix whatever the vehicle of the day

was. The day he discovered CAA was a good day for us all!

Kevin had a knack for finding and fixing old project bikes. The Bargain Hunter Press and

Maritime Merchant were Bibles to him back in the day, but good old word of mouth and

Kevin's gift of gab often turned up new finds. We all have so many stories about our

adventures with him that took us all over the Maritimes and beyond with him on the

never ending quest for the next project.

Kevin was also an avid historian constantly reading and learning. His knowledge of

dates and historical events, whether political, sports related, music, or family history was

astounding. He was the guy to call if you had a question about anything and everything

as long as you didn't call him when Jeopardy was on! He was definitely the true

Jeopardy Champ.

Kevin loved to have bonfires and fancied himself quite the cook on an open fire. In his

later years, Kevin's favourite thing to do was camp out in his Westfalia with Anne on the

property they purchased by the water. There, they spent many hours happily turning

that scrappy piece of land into their own personal heaven.

To say Kevin will be missed by his family and friends is an understatement.

There are

no words to describe the loss we feel. However, the love and the memories he has left

with us will remain with us until we close our eyes ourselves and see him again.

Special thanks to all involved in Kevin's care, especially the caring staff at the Dartmouth General and his home care nurses provided by AJLifeline Inc.

Also, to his
many friends who visited regularly bringing coffee and treats and reminiscing
with
Kevin. There are way too many names to mention in fear of missing someone,
and
doesn't that speak volumes for the legacy he leaves behind.
The best quote ever from Kevin was when his little sister Raylene and Anne
had him out
in the wheelchair for one of his last adventures and he said with tears "I feel
so loved."
Kevin, you are so loved!
There will be no service at Kevin's request. Kevin would want you to
remember him with
the best memories you have of him; relaxing by a campfire with friends and
family. He
loved us all.

Tribute Wall

WN

“ I just found out about Kevin’s passing and even though I knew he was not well it still came as a shock. I got to know Kevin briefly while I was his mail carrier in Cole Harbour. The first time I saw him he was outside working on one of his old MG’s. I knew instantly that I had to go talk with him. He was so friendly he answered all my silly questions We shared a fondness for British cars and bikes. While I was delivering mail I would often just stop to chat with him about whatever he was working on. I even brought my teenage son out to see him one time and he took the time to talk with us about his latest project. One memory that really stands out was the time I mentioned that I would someday like to have an old car like his and he offered to sell me one of his. When I said “I didn’t have the money to pay him “, he offered to let me have it anyway saying I could pay him back in instalments with whatever I had. That’s the kind of guy Kevin was. He will be sadly missed. May he rest in peace.

Wally Nowlan - May 27 at 06:09 PM



“ Though Kevin and I are second cousins - our great-grandfathers were brothers - our paths crossed over 40 years ago during a submarine refit as I was heading aft and he was heading forward. We realized the family connection, and besides both of us being stokers, we shared a lot of common interests, including a passion for British bikes and cars. I moved west, and didn't connect with Kevin again until many years later - here back in our hometown Sydney. We quickly formed a strong bond, and I felt we were true brothers. Kevin was a happy-go-lucky person with a huge sense of humour. His knowledge, skill, and true determination regarding anything mechanical - the more obscure the better- was truly stellar. I'm so glad Kevin and I had this brief time together. He surely will be missed! Condolences to Raylene and the boys, and family, friends, and his former shipmates. ⚓❤️

David Stephens - April 27 at 09:34 AM

TP

“ My deepest condolences on the passing of Kevin. Kevin was a submariner extraordinaire, colleague and more importantly, a friend; I had the pleasure of sailing in Onondaga and Ojibwa with Kevin. Wishing the family comfort and peace. Dolphin Code 36.

Tony Palmer - April 24 at 01:06 PM

JP

“ Kevin was my CERA on ONONDAGA in the early 90 's. The boys loved him. He had the incredible ability to analyze a problem, come up with a plan, then execute in rapid fashion. No job was too hard for him. Sorry to see him go. Condolences to his loved ones.

Jim Pope - April 24 at 09:15 AM

JO

My sympathy to Raylene and family. Condolence to his loved ones.

Johnena - April 27 at 10:50 PM

LL

“ I was Kevin's Divisional Petty Officer when he joined Sea Cadets in Sydney. He was outstanding then, also. I was glad to meet up with him again in HMC Dockyard after all those years. I will miss you, my friend!

Len Leadbeater - April 24 at 08:32 AM

GT

“ Our deepest condolences to Ann & family. Keeping you in our prayers through this very difficult time. He will be deeply missed. Such a great man.
Gerry & Laura Tompkins

Gerry & Laura Tompkins - April 23 at 04:11 PM

SS

“ Great photo of "Effie." Reminds me of when he and I were sitting on the after casing of the Okanagan and watching skimmers proceeding to sea for exercises. There were a few comments and chuckles... RIP Effie.

Steve St-Amant - April 22 at 05:14 PM

AN

Raylene I so wish I had known your brother. What an amazing life. I pray that you find peace and comfort. Such a wonderful man is certainly in the arms of God. Hugs. Andrea Mitchell (Bedford)

Andrea - April 22 at 05:28 PM

LB


“ *RIP we have the watch now. I meet Kevin at submarine squadron. He will be missed. A wonderful man to talk to. Thank you for your service Kevin. God Bless you all*

Lenny Burke - April 22 at 04:47 PM

WB

Well said Kenny.

Wade Berglund - April 23 at 06:09 PM

 Bruce Goldsmith

“ *Effie, we are all going to miss seeing you at the swap meets, breakfast gatherings and rides. You always brought a little sunshine into our days and I, for one, am very thankful for that! Rest easy old boy and B.Z. on a life rich in friends and a loving family.*

Bruce Goldsmith - April 22 at 03:40 PM

KC

“ *RIP Kevin, my condolences to family and friends.*
Keith Crocket

Keith Crocket - April 22 at 01:43 PM

TC

“ *On behalf of my sister's, Addie & Colleen and myself. Terry Hatcher I would like to express sincere condolences to the entire family on Kevin's passing. Like many cousins we lost contact as life took us in different directions but retain many memories from years past. We hope your many great memories will help you through this difficult period.*

Terry Hatcher, Addie MacIntyre, Colleen - April 22 at 11:31 AM

PB

I never met Kevin in person but met by chance a number of years ago thru our mutual love of cranky old motorcycles . I was able to supply him with parts needed to to get one of his old BMWs back on the road . From that time I was able to live vicariously through his Facebook page following his many adventures . Godspeed my friend you will be fondly remembered .

Peter Berry - April 22 at 01:17 PM

JB

My sincere condolences to Kevin's family and friends ☐ I remember Kevin as Cadet with RCSCC SYDNEY SEA CADETS. Even as a young age he was a true sailor and untainted the rank as Chief Petty Officer first class in our Corps. May he RIP 🙏

John Brewer - April 22 at 02:32 PM



Though Kevin and I are second cousins - our great-grandfathers were brothers - our paths crossed over 40 years ago during a submarine refit as I was heading aft and he was heading forward. We realized the family connection, and besides both of us being stokers, we shared a lot of common interests, including a passion for British bikes and cars. I moved west, and didn't connect with Kevin again until many years later - here back in our hometown Sydney. We quickly formed a strong bond, and I felt we were true brothers. Kevin was a happy-go-lucky person with a huge sense of humour. His knowledge, skill, and true determination regarding anything mechanical - the more obscure the better- was truly stellar. I'm so glad Kevin and I had this brief time together. He surely will be missed! Condolences to Raylene and the boys, and family, friends, and his former shipmates. 🚢

David Stephens - April 23 at 07:21 AM

AM

You will be surely Missed my friend!!

Alan MacHardy - April 23 at 08:31 AM

RR

Kevin was the first friend I made when we started school we met as he remembered the first day on the steps of the old ashby school. Lots of great times including getting drunk together for the first time behind the old Centennial rink . Kevin always had a great sense of humor and fun. We lost track of one another over the years unfortunately but reconnected on Facebook.

My condolences to all his family

Ralph Ripley - April 23 at 10:09 AM

BL

On behalf of the Submariners Association of Canada East, its Executive and Members we offer our condolences to Kevin's family and his many friends at this time. Kevin will not be forgotten for his support of submarines and the Association. May all his good deeds be a Blessing in his Memory. RIP Kevin. It was good to visit you a week before your passing. Dolphin 38.

Brian Lapierre - April 23 at 02:40 PM

SM

My sincerest condolences for your loss, I worked with Kevin for a few years on the Glen Tugs and appreciated all the knowledge he passed on during our time working together. Fair winds and Following Seas my friend.

scott macpherson - April 25 at 12:45 PM

AA

Sorry to see my friend since grade one pass. We were Sea Cadets, Scouts and Alter Boys. I will miss him greatly

Allee Andrews - May 05 at 12:41 PM