



## Randall James ( Randy) MacNeill

June 3, 1967 - January 25, 2023

MacNeill, Randall James (Randy); 55, Halifax. “Neely” to all his friends, of which he had many, passed away on January 25, 2023, with his wife and sister by his side, following a 4 1/2 year battle with cancer.

Neely was larger than life, his motto was to “keep on keepin’ on”.

He fought with dignity and tenacity, referring to setbacks at “bumps in the road”.

Randy’s positive attitude was one to be admired.

He

lived his life to the fullest, being able to attend sporting events when he was no longer able to play.

He always had an event or game to look forward to.

Randy was an athlete, playing hockey, fastball, slo-pitch, suburban and gentleman’s level. He

gave 100% to any sport he played. The

highlights were being a member of the Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame inducted 1998 Truro TSN Bearcats Hockey Club and playing in several

fastball nationals resulting in silver medals between the years 1994 and 1999.

Randy was no stranger to the game of ringette,

being introduced as a child by

his mother and sister. He was eager for his daughter Alexa to play. He was an assistant coach and later coach. He had a gentle way with his teams and each player was very special to him. He brought out the best in everyone. There also may have been a magic trick or two by "The Great Randini". Randy was a guy's guy, and we are forever grateful to those who included him in every adventure. A special thanks to Mark (Eli) Laprise, Brian (Himmy) Himmelman, Paul (HoHo) Flemming, Cal (C-Bus) Bussey & Terry (TP) Schelleman. You always gave your time freely and selflessly. To know Randy was to love the person he was. I would be remiss if I did not mention that Randy was employed at Oland Brewery in Halifax for 20+ years. Being a dedicated employee, he would come home with a case of Keiths from NSLC and joked that he was bringing work home. A special thank you to the support from his union brothers, sisters, managers. In particular, Jamie Skinner and Rob Finn for their support over the years. He is survived by his wife Lucinda "Cindi" (Boutilier) and his daughters Alexa and Nichole (Tyler) Burns and their children Sawyer and Emerson, step father Doug Whitford, sister Shelley Cahill (Peter Black), Shelley's children Mitchell (Megan) and Jessica (John), step brothers Scott (Cecilia) and Scott's children Logan, Zachery and Jordan, Shawn (Marie) and their children Kenzie and Carson, aunt Emily Brown and her children Lynn, Nancy and Michael, aunt Louise (John) Sloane and their children Gail

and Dawn, mother-in-law Jacqueline Boutilier.

Randy was predeceased by his father John Joseph (Joey) MacNeill and his

mother Myrna (Brown) Whitford.

Many thanks go out to the amazing team of doctors who followed Randy through this journey. Special thanks to Dr. Alwyn Jeyakumar and Kim, Dr. Ashley Cox, Dr. Carman Giacomantonio, the amazing professionals in the chemo ward on the 11th floor and all doctors, nurses and administrators during his many hospital appointments and stays.

He received world-class care from day 1.

Cremation will take place at Harbourside

Crematorium and according to his wishes a Celebration of Life has been organized. Sunday,

February 26, 2023, starting at 2:00 p.m. at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, 1055 Marginal Road.

Refreshments to follow. Hockey jersey, ringette jersey, ball jersey, crazy clothes (the crazier, the better) are welcomed and encouraged.

# Tribute Wall

RC

“ Dear Cindi, Alexa and Nicole. My sincere condolences on your loss. I cannot even fathom what you are going through currently. I did not lose a husband or father but I did lose one of my very closest friends and it hurts. When a person has Neely as one of their closest friends, then you don't need many more. If he didn't affect your life in a positive way, then you've never met him. There's not much more that I can add here that anyone else hasn't already written. With Neely covering short, Needles at 3rd and Perry Nicholson on the mound, The Big Fella Upstairs certainly has a plethora of talent on his roster. Neely, save me a spot, would love to be your teammate again someday. For now I will leave you with Love Ya Bro and your famous Chaaaaaaa

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**Ron Corbett** - February 22, 2023 at 07:10 PM

GS

“ While Randy and I played hockey together during our younger years...in Senior hockey with the Halifax Blues, and with the Rockingham Eagles in the old Suburban Hockey League, there was one specific night that Randy played an integral part in my life. The night I first met my wife, Linda Bendelier. Strat Kane formally introduced me to Linda that night...at Brandy's. She was with her best friend that day, who was recently engaged...shopping together for wedding dresses. But we somehow "bumped" into Randy at one point that night, who just hung out with us, making it fun. He just how we all knew him...talking to everyone...making it fun...loving the moment. Linda and I both remember that night...and how amazing a person Randy was. He made it easy for all of us to talk. We closed down The Palace that night at 3am in the morning. He was the best winger you could have hoped for on a night like that. I will never forget that special night and the part he ultimately played in the reality of our life. Loved him.

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**Greg Smith** - February 17, 2023 at 02:14 AM

AH

“ I had the pleasure of working with Randy. In the earlier years I coached his father, Joey in minor hockey and baseball. "Neely" was a great employee, dedicated to the task at hand. He will be missed by so many. R.I.P. old friend. Al Hollingsworth

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**Al Hollingsworth** - February 08, 2023 at 12:28 PM

SR

“ Please accept our heartfelt condolences on the passing of Randy MacNeil. He was the guy who could light up a room of people with his humor, enthusiasm for life, and his camaraderie spirit for friendship not to mention how great he was in hockey and baseball. He was definitely a costume man and he never ceased to amaze us with his outfits. He will be sadly missed by the many people who crossed his path.

May the sorrow you feel in your hearts lighten by the love that surrounds you all during this difficult time. Know that you will always have the wonderful memories to cherish and comfort you and know that he is not suffering any longer. He is resting peacefully with loved ones that have gone before him.

God's love and many prayers are all around you, now and for as long as it takes. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends.

Love Sharon and Ron MacDonald

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**Sharon and Ron** - February 06, 2023 at 08:50 PM

AC

“ Art & Christine purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Randall James ( Randy) MacNeill.



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**Art & Christine** - February 03, 2023 at 01:50 PM

PG

“ We are so sorry to hear about Randy as i knew him and Neely as Carl knew him hugs to all who knew him ,he was one of a kind for sure ,our deepest condolences from Paula Gates and Carl Boutilier

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**paula gates** - February 02, 2023 at 12:27 AM

CM

“ Our thoughts and condolences to the MacNeill family, his wife, children, extended family and his many friends and colleagues. As a member of The Mutual Benefit Society of Timberlea “Neely” always lit up the hall with his enormous presence the high fives, fist pumps and handshakes aplenty. He enjoyed his Thursday evenings with his fellow members playing a good game of pool or dabbling in a game of cards. Although a member for only a short time he will be surely missed on Thursday nights.  
President of The MBS Charles Maynard

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**charles maynard** - February 01, 2023 at 08:11 PM

LW

“ Cindi and family. My deepest condolences. It was just a few weeks back that I got to see him on the big screen at the Thunderbirds game. Looked like he was thoroughly enjoying himself. I had not met him in person, but every time I saw Cindi she spoke about her love for him.

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**Lori Walton** - February 01, 2023 at 10:57 AM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Harbourside Regional Crematorium** - February 01, 2023 at 07:48 AM

BH

“ Sorry to hear the passing of “Neely”. My condolences to his family. Always had a positive smile and time for one on one chats. Couldn't ask for a better teammate. He always had your back. Many triumphs and laughs at the rink and on the field. Gonna miss coming to the plate and Neely telling his teammates where to precisely play me. And his wardrobe, his wacky wardrobe. I have a team ball photo with everybody in uniform and Neely in his bathrobe. That's Neely. When the game is over and he runs the bases full speed and slides into home. That's Neely. Rest easy....” your pal Barry.”

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**Barry Hartlen** - January 31, 2023 at 07:14 PM

MB

“ So sorry to hear of Randy's passing. He was a great guy and I know he will surely be missed by many.

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**Mike Barrette** - January 31, 2023 at 06:57 PM

WC

“ hit like you can brother” followed shortly by “you’ll get him next time” At a time when most buddies are looking for ways to make fun of or laugh at people’s faults, you could always count on that smile and positivity from Randy. For a guy that would never look down at anyone, I have one last request bud. Please feel free to look down at us now. Send anyone needing a little pick me up a small piece of the Randini spirit. RIP brother.

Wayne Chiasson - January 31, 2023 at 05:45 PM

LD

“ So sorry to hear the news of Randy's passing, I remember the big hug he gave me when I told him he was being hire full time, he was always a positive and fun fellow employee to work with. Larry Deal

Larry Deal - January 31, 2023 at 05:12 PM

DM

“ Played Hockey with him for a couple of years. He was a great player and a great person. He will be missed. He was always upbeat and fought cancer bravely. God love him. All thoughts and prayers to Randys family and friends.

Derek Mackenzie - January 30, 2023 at 08:29 PM

DN

To Randy's Family and Friends, Sending sincere condolences to all. Randy was always so encouraging, friendly and positive and we knew him through his Mom and Doug! May happy times and memories help you through these sad days. Sincerely, Brian & Dianne Nowe

Dianne Nowe - February 02, 2023 at 09:39 PM