

Saturday 12 August 2023

SASKATOON
STARPHOENIX | Obituaries

Learn & Prepare Funeral

 Obituary

 Events



Laura and Ralph
JOHNSTONE

JOHNSTONE, Laura and Ralph

Laura Bach Johnstone
1956 - 2023

Laura Bach Johnstone was born in New Brunswick in 1956 to Earling Bach and Connie Bach (Mowbray). She joined brothers Larry, Karl and sister Linda. The Bach family was an Air Force family well versed at traveling through the Maritimes and eventually to Toronto where Laura gathered some terrific memories. In the 1980's Laura moved to a farm in Imperial where she raised Richard and Johnna Burlingham (Mooney). Both Richard and Johnna went to school in Watrous. Laura also studied and practiced reflexology on many clients in the area. In the 2000's Laura met Ralph Johnstone who became the love of her life. Laura, Ralph, and the kids lived in Saskatoon for the rest of their lives. Laura and Ralph loved to spend their retirement, both working on antique furniture restoration as well as transforming their yard into a beautiful park-like setting. Unfortunately, their health began to worsen to the point when they decided with the Lord's blessing to complete their earthly journey together, on August 8th, at their own home in an embrace full of love and affection. Ralph, Laura, and family would like to thank the compassionate doctors with the MAiD program. Ralph and Laura were the first couple in the province to use the program simultaneously to fulfil their last wishes." Cherished Memories Funeral Services is honored to have been entrusted with Laura's care.

Donations to the SPCA would be appreciated. Ralph Johnstone
1946 - 2023

Ralph Johnstone was born in Moose Jaw in 1946 to the parents of Thornton and Margaret. Ralph was also greeted by an older brother Bob. Ralph attended Central Collegiate and studied education at the U of R. After teaching junior high school for three years in Weyburn, Ralph moved to Saskatoon in 1972. Ralph along with partner Gord Haddock and later Bruce Wilkinson opened H.E.L. Music Supplies Ltd on Broadway Avenue which over the years became a very famous and popular stop in Saskatoon for musicians from all across Canada and the States. Ralph, Gord, and Bruce became lifelong friends. The store closed in the mid 2000's. Around this time Ralph met the love of his life and soul mate Laura Bach who along with her two children Richard Mooney and Johnna Burlingham all blended in with Ralph's four children Jodine Agridiotis, Jesse Johnstone (Kelli), Erin Legg (Evan) and Skai Johnstone (Shanna). In retirement Ralph and Laura enjoyed many years of working in their shop restoring countless antiques. Laura also loved transforming their yard, along with Ralph's assistance, into a beautiful park-like setting. Over more recent years Ralph and Laura's health continually deteriorated, which led them together to take their last journey, on August 8th, with the Lord in their home on their bed in a warm embrace filled with a lifetime of happy, loving memories. Ralph, Laura, and family would like to thank the compassionate doctors with the MAiD program. Ralph and Laura were the first couple in the province to use the program simultaneously to fulfil their last wishes." Cherished Memories Funeral Services is honored to have been entrusted with Ralph's care.

<https://thestarphoenix.remembering.ca/obituaries/obituaries/search/>

MAiD has been getting some bad press lately, and some "professionals" have not helped, committing egregious blunders in judgment. Now critics will jump on the question of how two people could qualify for a joint MAiD without bending the criteria in at least one case. More intrusion into other people's lives and rights—in this case misguided intrusion—to act out personal stuff under the guise of responsibility to "a greater purpose." How is it my business to tell these people what do with their lives? Their suffering? People make "death" choices (smoking, drugs, lifestyle) every day. Should we have told this perhaps-incapacitated couple "Sorry, No. You must make your own plan and carry it out. Hope you don't make a mess of it." TJB