



IRELAND, Donald James

It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our soulmate, brother, brother-in-law and uncle, Don Ireland, who left us peacefully on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at the age of 63. Predeceased by his parents Frank and Jean, Don is survived by Jana, who was the love of his life, and by his brother Dave (Fran), sisters Sue (Gord) Strongman and Nancy (Les) Pickell, nephews Wes, Jeff and Thomas, nieces Tamara and Victoria, and by many cousins.

Born Donald James on December 28, 1957 at Royal Jubilee Hospital, he attended Quadra Elementary, S.J. Willis Jr. High and Victoria High School. Starting his working career as a busboy at the Executive House restaurant, Don later served his meat cutter's apprenticeship at Lakehill Meats which he and a partner subsequently purchased and ran for a number of years. He was then employed at Four Ways Meat Market before moving to Thrifty Foods where he worked in the James Bay, Sidney, Fairfield and Central Saanich stores. In his 33 year career there his strong work habits coupled with his friendly and easy-going manner made him a valued employee and he soon rose to the position of department manager. He was highly respected and well-liked by both his staff and his fellow employees.

During his leisure time over the years, Don enjoyed bowling, street hockey, curling and golf as well as playing in the MacDonalds Park Senior Men's Fastball league and crewing, along with his Dad, on brother Dave's racecars at Western Speedway. As a part of their loving relationship, Don and Jana shared a mutual love of sports, a highlight of which was Jana's gift to Don on his 50th birthday of a trip to Florida for the 50th running of the Daytona 500 stockcar race. Other trips included ones to races in Las Vegas and Phoenix. Our heartfelt thanks to the staff of Victoria's BC Cancer Clinic and to the staff of Royal Jubilee Hospital's Palliative Care ward. A

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