



Van de Putte, Theodorus Johannes Antonius "Teddy"

It is with great sadness we announce the death of Teddy which occurred at Inverary Manor, August 18, 2018. Teddy was born in Holland, August 5, 1928; the oldest son of Adrian and Katherine Van de Putte. His father; a soldier, lost his life on the first day of the invasion of Holland during WWII. His mother sent him to a boarding school with the Brothers of Our Ladies of Seven Sorrows. In his teens he joined the Congregation and took his final vows. In 1958 at the request of Bishop John R MacDonald the Brothers came to Canada and established the first Vocational School in Nova Scotia. This was located in the old New Glasgow Hospital. A few years later the Brothers bought farmland in Mabou Harbour and some of the Brothers, including Teddy, began what was known to many as "The Brothers Farm" building greenhouses and establishing a brood of poultry and a dairy herd. They began taking in boarders that were attending high school in Mabou; many of these boarders and students from the school worked on the farm and were taught about farm work and many life lessons under the supervision of Teddy's and Brother Richard, a horticulturist. Teddy known as "Brother Camillus" was in charge of the livestock and poultry part of the farm. In 1976 Brother Richard passed away suddenly and the greenhouse operation came to an end; Teddy then concentrated on the dairy operation. He had a great love for animals and raised a herd of top quality Holstein cows. Teddy loved the people of Mabou, but the people of Mabou Harbour were his family. He was a very hard-working man and treated his hired help and students with great respect, many of these became lifelong friends. His workday always began with a morning prayer. At 4 a.m. it was time to milk the cows which usually took up to four hours. It was not unusual for Teddy to sleep in the barn to deliver a new calf. One of his proudest achievements was when one of his cows was classified "excellent" by Holstein Canada. Another proud moment was the year he had the highest average of milk production per cow on D H A S in NS, another achievement for his "Lake Mabou Farm". In 1984 the Brotherhood was returning to Holland and if he wanted to remain in the Order he would be required to return with them. Teddy had a very difficult decision to make; one which he did not take lightly. In the end he decided he could not leave his beloved community of Mabou, his friends that were like family and his farm. Teddy decided to purchase the farm; although, he left the Order, in his heart he remained a religious brother. To the very end many of his former students and friends called him "Brother Camillus". In 2002 he sold the farm, bought a mini home where he enjoyed his retirement. Teddy was a humble man who did many kind deeds and wished to remain anonymous never wanting to be the center of attention. Although He was cared for by three wonderful ladies and many caring friends the time came when he needed full time care. Teddy spent his last years in Inverary Manor where he received wonderful care. He is survived by his brother, Anthony (Australia) and nieces and nephews in Holland and Australia. Besides his parents he was predeceased by sisters, Wilhelmina and Maria; brothers, Aad and Johannes. Visitation for the late "Teddy" Van de Putte will be Wed. Aug 22<sup>nd</sup> in St. Mary's Church Vestry from 5-9 p.m. Funeral Mass will be in St. Mary's Church Thurs, Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11 a.m. with Father Bernie MacDonald officiating. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Inverness Hospital Foundation, Inverary Manor or a charity of your choice.