



*DIEKELMANN,
Paul
Alexander*

Born in: Chicago, Illinois, USA

Passed in: Nova Scotia, Canada

Passed on: November 24, 2021

Paul Diekelmann, beloved husband, father, grandfather and friend, peacefully passed away Wednesday, November 24, 2021. A quiet and unassuming man, Paul touched many lives and will be deeply missed as he leaves Cape Breton to continue his life journey.

Paul was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1932 to Marie “Minnie” Martinello and Paul Bernhard Diekelmann. He soon moved to Sydney, Cape Breton where he was raised by his mother and step-father Joseph Renzi. Paul later met his wife Antonia “Toni” Dennis while teaching accordion at the Sydney *Hawaiian School of Music*. He often told us, “When I first saw your mom, she had a glow, and knew that she would be the one I would marry.” Paul’s work took him to many places around the world from Hawaii, Panama and several US states before returning to Canada and settling in Baddeck, Nova Scotia with his family.

A philosopher, researcher, author and wordsmith, Paul possessed an insatiable curiosity, love of knowledge and a quirky sense of humor along with a strong faith in God. Among his many pursuits include 20 years of service in the US Military/National Guard, work with Child and Maternal Health Care, investigator and immunization officer for the CDC, Records Manager with the Arizona Supreme Court, and financial advisor. He also held several scholarly degrees, taught political science, and was an ordained all-faith’s minister and a priest for the Eastern Chaldean Church.

In his later years Paul took up writing for pleasure and published the book "Hanging Daisy", a true tale of murder. He was a member of the local Freewheelers association, Friends of the Library, and attended several community churches. Paul learned archery in his 80's through the Baddeck Archery Club and on his 89th birthday, was able to land a bullseye.

Paul was well loved and will be deeply missed by many relatives, nieces, nephews and friends. A dedicated father to three daughters, Margaret (Keith) Miles, Bras d'Or, Pauline Diekelmann, Baddeck, and Josephine Volpe (William Dauphin), Hawaii. Paul leaves behind three grandchildren, Sarah Marshall-Miles, Halifax, and Jacklyn Volpe and Michael Volpe both from Arizona. He is also survived by his sister Angela (Bruce) Cummings, Michigan and Joe Renzi, Sydney. Besides his parents, Paul is predeceased by his wife Toni and his oldest grandson, Stephen Marshall.

No funeral services are planned. A gathering to celebrate Paul's exceptional life will be announced in the future. For those who wish, donations in his memory may be made to a charity of their choice. Online Condolences: www.sunsetfuneralco-op.com