

# *IN LOVING MEMORY OF*

## *CARL TANNER ROSS*



Carl Tanner Ross (86 Yrs)

August 16 1937 – May 1, 2024

On Wednesday May 1, 2024 with love, gratitude and sadness we said see you later to our Dad, Grandfather, Great Grandfather, brother and friend. Carl was born August 16<sup>th</sup>, 1937 in Inverness, Cape Breton to William Milford Ross (Willie Walter Donald) and Gladys Mildred (Burton) Ross, their first born and only red head.

Carl lived on the homestead in Portree where he resided until his death with a few side trips along the way. He went to the one room red school house across the river in Rivulet. As he got older he drove the conveyance for all the school children (horse and wagon) today called a bus driver. Carl finished school at Grade 11 and headed off to community college where he learned autobody repair. It was while in North Sydney he met our mother Maryon Louise Hillier at Young People's group. He was 17 she was 15, and under the watchful eye of her father George, she was not allowed to marry until she turned 21. They dated, went to young people's, Dad got a job with Archie MacKinnon where he learned to run heavy machinery, carpentry, road repair and building construction. Mom and Dad married at St Matthew Wesley United Church October 15<sup>th</sup> 1960 (she turned 21 September 27<sup>th</sup>) on her own terms as she always said she would never ask permission. Carl bought a small parcel of land at the end of the lane (land that once housed his Great Uncle Joe's blacksmith shop) and built their

first home from the foundation to the logging, milling the lumber and making the shingles. It is here they welcomed their first born Ruth Elizabeth (Ross) Kennedy (JD) North Rustico PEI.

Work was hard to come by in the early 60's. They moved to New Glasgow where he worked on roads and infrastructure, they moved back to Portree where he did carpentry work and buildings with Baxter Ingraham (they put the basement in at the Margaree Valley Baptist Church where he attended services. Next they moved to Halifax where he worked putting in sewer lines and infrastructure in the South end of Halifax. Back to Portree where Gregory Kenneth Ross (Loren) Grande Prairie AB was born. It was then that Ralph Black took a chance and hired Carl as a Fisheries Technician (today's term) then it was labourer. Carl worked to learn the ropes and was a quick study. In 1967 a job came up in Maitland Bridge in Kejimikujik National Park at the fish culture station. Carl applied, well Rusty did on Dad's behalf and with Rusty Peverill's blessing off the family moved first to Kempt where David John Ross (Nadine), Portree, was born. The next year they bought a farm bordering the park for \$3000. Dad worked under his manager Kenny Carmichael (another Margareer) and on his off hours he farmed and trained oxen. One favourite pair were Freckles and Speckles where he showed and attended the Queens County Exhibition and parade with the team. It was in Kedgie that he became the shop steward and not only worked beside his peers, he was a voice for them.

In 1973 an opportunity arose and the family was off to Northern NB where they lived first in New Mills. Carl transferred as a fisheries technician but shortly his manager Ralph Watts retired, no one wanted to move to Charlo NB so Carl became the interim Manager and moved the family to the housing provided on the hatchery site in Charlo. He learned to speak French, continued to learn and share his expertise in managing the welfare of Atlantic Salmon. He travelled the back roads of Southern NS, NB, Eastern NS and Cape Breton seining for brood stock, raising the stock to be released back into the waters and tributaries over the Maritimes.

Farming was still in his blood so he fixed up a building and brought his 2 cows from Portree to Charlo. Here he worked the land with Dr Ron Barriault, travelled for hockey with Manley Petersen and talked cows with Pierre Laviolette, and did his civic duty as a member of the School board.

It was in Charlo he started to breed his cattle to the Limousin breed. As time progressed, in order to become manager it was mandatory to get a university degree to continue. Carl longed for the Cape Breton air and with 3 teenagers chose to not proceed with a degree. He requested a transfer back to Margaree

and was denied. With much discussion it was decided they would move back and farm full time. They moved by numerous truck loads with bags, baggage, furniture and animals (only hit one moose) back to the homestead in Portree. After his leave, he returned to Fishery Technician at the Margaree Fish Culture Station where he remained until he retired. He worked full time and managed a herd of 40 Limousin Cows and 40 North Country Cheviot Ewes, many he had bred to full blood and pure bred. He was a board member of the Inverness County Federation of Agriculture, NS Federation of Agriculture, was a co founder of the Maritime Limousin Association and sat on the board where he travelled the Maritimes/Gaspe meeting farmers. He was a member of the Canadian Limousin Association, as well as being on the Council of Leaders where he attended meetings across Canada. He was a member of the Sheep Breeders association. He showed animals at the Cape Breton County Exhibition winning showmanship awards and promoting his cattle and sheep. He attended the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto and Agribition in Regina, the last trip he and mom would take. Mom passed away August 25<sup>th</sup> 1997 leaving Dad to manage the farm and now the bookkeeping on his own. We closed up the Bed and Breakfast, one thing Dad enjoyed, having great breakfast spreads, and chatting and telling stories to people from all over the globe.

Dad was a board member of the North East Margaree Credit Union, MADA, and when the Fish Hatchery closed was a founding member and President for ADAM (Aquatic Development Association of Margaree). A few dedicated people took over the hatchery and through volunteerism and hard work ran the Hatchery and continued to raise and stock the rivers with Atlantic Salmon. With that Carl continued to farm and then became founding board member of the Sunset Funeral Co-op and later was President of the Board of Directors. He helped with funerals by driving vans, placing the greens and building rough boxes. He enjoyed tea once a week with his friend Johnena. We thank her for being a friend and keeping Dad in baked goodies and attending events with him, so he didn't have to go alone.

At his passing Dad still managed his farm albeit with a smaller stock. Still repaired the equipment and still remained a member of the Federation of Agriculture, Sunset Funeral Co-op and a steadfast Liberal. He was a historian and was the "go to guy" for genealogy especially with the Ross family and the history of the land and property from Forest Glen to the North East. As he said "I'm the oldest man on this side of the river". Another quote " I have come to realize we are stewards of the land while we are here, what happens after we are gone we do not control".

Besides his children he leaves behind his Grandchildren Allison (Joey) Whiffen and Amy (Josh) Phillips, Portree; Jenna Ross, Sydney NS; Justin (Barbara)

Ross, Kevin Ross, Hillary (Grady) Rhyno, all of Grande Prairie AB; William Ross, Glace Bay, NS and Frederick Kennedy, North Rustico, PEI. Great grandchildren Samuel, Bethany, Avery, Kyle, Kenzie, Lexi, Ava, Kate, Kingsley, Olivia, Callum, Brylee and Bowen. He also leaves behind his 3 siblings Robie(Cathy) Sackville, NS; Willena MacIsaac Dartmouth, NS and Alma Hutchinson Surrey, BC.

Although Dad finished school in Grade 11 he was well read and a wealth of knowledge and experience in many, many things. He could plan and engineer buildings and machinery. He remained a quietly spiritual man, watching his show daily "Faith to Live By" and attending church at Margaree Valley Baptist Church. One of our earliest memories is Mom and Dad on each side of the bed kneeling, saying their prayers before bed. It is in this faith and belief we know he did not fear death but looked forward to seeing his Lord and his beloved wife and family once again.

Visitation will be on Friday, May 3rd from 2-4 and 7-9 pm at the Margaree Valley Seniors Hall. Please join the family as we say "Until we meet again" at the Margaree Valley Baptist Church, at 2:30 pm Sat. May 4th. Internment in the Methodist Cemetery Margaree Valley next to the love of his life, Maryon. Donations in memory may be made to a charity of ones choice. Funeral arrangements are under the care and direction of Sunset Funeral Coop.