



Steven William Wolanski

January 28, 1935 - June 12, 2021

Steven William Paul Wolanski, born in Alberta to Ukrainian/Polish immigrants, and raised by widowed mother, Ann (née Popyk).

Steve had high regard for his mother who struggled to support the family. She chased away Russian soldiers from her family farm in the old country circa early 1900's, with a pitchfork, and throughout life she could beat the tar out of all threatening individuals. As a young man Steve signed up with the Canadian Navy, as aircraft mechanic. Later becoming a talented welder with Ironworkers Local 736 Hamilton, being lean but strong like Popeye. He had great appreciation for fellow Ironworkers, spoke highly of First Nations members, and this respect was passed down. Steve shared some of their special abilities, being fearless working at extreme heights.

He married Muriel Wolanski (nee Edwards). Father to David Wolanski (Kim) and Paul Wolanski, Uncle to Ken Wallace (Dina), and grandfather to Lindsay and Sydney. Pre-deceased by sister Mary and brother Walter.

Steve was not a regular guy. In younger years he took the dog and dropped in on friends without calling, rid the garage of rats by revving Ford Capri while he was still inside garage, thought fridge leftovers were still ok after a month, and built a sun porch for his cats. Steve was adamant his children cannot receive calls after 9PM, but would yell for cats to come in at 3AM. In the 1980's, he fabricated 40 ft steel bridge sections in the family driveway, and delivered to clients with his Pinto. We are proud, but received teasing at the time – “why doesn't he build a bridge to your neighbour's house?” For the first delivery, the bridge fell off on the highway because Steve took a chance that it didn't need to be tied down. He eventually fabricated larger bridges at golf courses that are still in use today.

He remained active all his life, walking many miles on a regular basis up to age 80, and later limited it to nearest Tim Horton's.

We would like to thank Ryan, Debbie, Adriana, Lachlan, and other staff at Dundas Retirement Place. Many thanks to Olivia of LHIN, other support workers through LHIN, Nilusha from CBI, Karin from Circle of Life Cremation and Burial Centre, and the staff at General Hospital.

Comments



“ Here is a Spotify playlist of songs that Steve listened to throughout his life, that Dave and I look back on with fondness:

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/5qc8UDxbkianM3NeXAYJIY>

Paul Wolanski

pwolanski - June 20 at 08:44 PM



“ Dave - all of us at ProMinent are saddened to hear of the passing of your Father. We are thinking of you and your family at this difficult time.

Todd Reeves & the ProMinent Canada Family!

Todd Reeves - June 18 at 12:01 PM



“ Though I have met and known Steve only for the last 5 years, I have fond memories of him - he made me laugh and always had a story or 2 about his life's adventures. From his motorcycle ride across country, to bridges he built for the golf course to how proud he was about his sons - Dave and Paul. He had been a caring uncle to Ken and we are grateful for the time we got to spend with him in these last years. We will remember our breakfasts (and tons of cream and sugar he liked in his coffee), family Thanksgiving and Christmas gatherings and walks in the parks. RIP, Uncle Steve.

Dina

Dina - June 18 at 07:18 AM



“ 4 files added to the album Steve's Family Photos



Dina - June 18 at 07:00 AM



“ It was my privilege and honour to work with Steve. And from what I read I must say that even in his late stage of illness he spoke of all the life he had lived. Before I read the story of his life, I knew he was a hard worker, respectful of woman, often spoke of his strong mother. Loved to swim and loved his job. He spoke of his family with such pride. He always had a smile, one I can see now when I close my eyes. Heaven has received another angel. Gone but will live on in every memory shared, every laugh and every tear.

Adrienne Reader - June 18 at 06:57 AM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Steven William Wolanski.



June 17 at 08:02 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Obituary

... Polish immigrants, and raised by widowed mother, Ann (nee Popko) Steve had high regard for his mother who struggled to support the family. She shared many Russian winters from her family farm in the old country since early 1900's with a pluck, and throughout life who could beat the fat out of all freezing individuals. As a young man Steve signed up with the Canadian Regt. as an armorer. Later becoming a bonded worker with Amersham Local 736 Hamilton, being best but among the Popkos, he had at 3 a.m. in the 1980s, he fabricated 40 foot steel bridge sections in the family driveway and delivered to clients with his Puma. The car broke, but received towing at the time - "why doesn't he build a bridge to put neighbour's house?" For the first delivery the bridge fell off on the highway because Steve took a chance that it didn't need to be that close. He eventually fabricated larger bridges at golf courses that are still in use today. He remained active all the the working days, until an ...

pwolanski - June 17 at 07:52 PM



“ David, Paul and family:

It is with great sorrow that I hear of the death of your father this past Saturday. It is with a smile that I reflect on all the memories of your visits to Brockville, the picnics at Brown's Bay, the parties at reunion times. A special memory is when he came in the Jaguar, he and Lorne took it on a tour and it quit at Iroquois, Ontario. They had to call me at work and I had to find someone to replace me so that I could drive our car and pick them up. We towed it back to Brockville where it sat in front of our house for a week. Then he came in the middle of the night to tow it back to Hamilton and the neighbour called the police because he thought he was stealing it. Also memories of trips to Hamilton, going to the car races at Flamborough and the weekend of their 25th anniversary. So many memories!! My thoughts and prayers are with you all. sending virtual hugs!

Carole Tanney - June 17 at 06:47 PM



“ 63 files added to the album Steve's Family Photos



Paul Wolanski - June 17 at 04:11 PM