



## Mr. Eugene Ross Lobe

August 21, 1940 - July 8, 2023

Gene Lobe of High River, Alberta (recently of Calgary) passed away peacefully at the Southwood Hospice on July 8, 2023.

Gene leaves to mourn his son Ivan (Logan Demerais), daughters Rachel (Andrew Moore) and Hilary (Erin Welte), as well as his beloved granddaughters; Julia, Madeleine, Elizabeth, Josephine, and Helena.

Gene was predeceased by his loving wife Betty (2016), his father Albert Lobe (1980), his mother Anne Lobe (1998), his sisters-in-law Joan Lobe (2022) and Jackie Coulter (2009), and brother-in-law Gene Coulter (2021). He is survived by his siblings; Vern Lobe, Donna Driedger (Irvin), Bert Lobe (Martha), and Gord Lobe (Pat). He is also survived by Betty's family; Bonny Hamm (Jake), Louise Coulter-Chomlak (Rick), Calvin Coulter (Jane), and Deb Poulin. He will be missed by nieces and nephews, and his circle of friends and colleagues.

Dad was born in North Battleford, Saskatchewan, on August 21, 1940 to Albert and Anne Lobe. He grew up in the Osler area, a farming community just North of Saskatoon. Dad earned a teaching certificate in 1959, and was soon teaching junior high in Wabowden, Manitoba, coming home every summer to work with his Dad in the Lobe Transport business. In 1964, he was filling a maternity leave in Lamont, Alberta, where he was taken with a vivacious, natural beauty named Betty Coulter, that he met at a curling

bonspiel and kielbasa bake. Betty and Gene were married August 20, 1966, a week after her Nursing graduation. They moved to La Crete, Alberta, to start their life together as the local teacher and the Municipal Health nurse. Son Ivan was born in Fort Vermilion in 1969, and daughter Rachel followed in 1971. In 1972, they moved to High River, Alberta, where daughter Hilary was born in 1973. Dad was a gifted carpenter and, together with his brother Vern, built Mom and Dad's dream home on a bare piece of land just outside High River.

Through their early years of marriage, Dad pursued a second degree in Library Science at the University of Alberta and used these skills to set up libraries throughout Northern Alberta. Upon moving to High River, Dad ran the media centre for the Foothills School Division and taught high school before moving on to teach elementary school at Spitzee and Joe Clark Schools. After retiring from teaching, Dad enjoyed working at Home Depot, sharing his practical wisdom and earning his "Gene the Machine" orange apron. Betty and Gene combined their interest in people and love of travel by volunteering with Mennonite Disaster Service to help communities in need in various locales across North America. As a Crew Leader, Dad did everything including ordering supplies, coordinating projects, and mentoring volunteers on these construction projects. The MDS project in High River was near and dear to Gene's heart.

Mom and Dad planned to see the world and managed to visit 96 countries and 49 states together. Dad continued to travel after Mom's passing but claimed "it's just not the same". Grandad knew what he liked, and liked what he knew - including milkshakes, good plain food, and pie. He was often called upon to share his vast knowledge, to step in and lend practical assistance, or to lighten the mood with his sly wit and mischievous chuckle. Grandad loved books, puns, history and games, such as Chess and cards. He also enjoyed having a project to work on, be it at his own home or the homes of others. In

his home hung a sign that read "Love is an action word" and he was the embodiment of this throughout his life.

A Celebration of Gene's Life will be held at 2:00 pm on Friday July 21, 2023 at the High River United Church, 123 Macleod Trail SW, High River, Alberta, with an inurnment at St. Alban's Cemetery in Chailey at a future date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Mennonite Disaster Service Canada at [www.mds.org](http://www.mds.org).

Caring for the family is Lyle Reeves Funerals of High River (Craig Snodgrass) 403.652.4242.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life Service

JUL **21**. 2:00 PM (MT)

High River United Church  
123 Macleod Trail South  
High River, AB (CA)  
(403) 652-3168  
hruc@telus.net  
<http://www.highriverunitedchurch.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lyle Reeves Funerals created a Webcast in memory of Mr. Eugene Ross Lobe*



---

**Lyle Reeves Funerals** - July 17, 2023 at 12:32 AM

DL

*Ivan, Rachel, Hillary and families.  
Doug and I and our families send you our sincere condolences. Your Dad was a wonderful man. You will miss him. Sorry we couldn't be with you to express our love in person, but our prayers are with you at this difficult time.  
Doug and Cheryl, Stacy, Rob*

---

**Doug and Cheryl Livingstone** - July 21, 2023 at 11:28 AM

BE

“ *Can't believe it! Had no idea he wasn't well. Saw him at Corky's celebration. We go back to the 80s teaching together at Spitzee. Great man. Consistent, intelligent, friendly, someone you could always count on and who wasn't afraid to speak his mind. In the last few years he kept in touch, we had coffee numerous times. So sad to hear he passed. Ivan, Rachel, Hilary, my sincere condolences.  
Brian Erickson*

---

**Brian Erickson** - July 22, 2023 at 11:45 PM

RD

“ *To the Lobe Families*

*We share in your sorrow at the loss of Gene. Gene was a good man. I will be forever grateful for the time and expertise that he gave to Abbeyfield House in High River. Gene took over project management to finish the House construction in 2008. He then was the volunteer "handyman" for many years after. In 2013, he brought the MDS group to Abbeyfield to help with some of the flood cleanup. It is said that "Debts of gold can be repaid, but you die forever indebted, for an act of kindness.....that was given". Well, Gene gave many acts of kindness, to many. We send our hugs to all, today.*

*Bob & Diane Delanoy*

---

**Robert Delanoy** - July 21, 2023 at 02:27 PM

CH

*Betty and Gene were a wonderful support to my husband Ken and myself during our struggle with Alzheimers. Betty had such great advice and Gene sat and talked with Ken. Travel with Gene and Betty was a joy! They were a great support to so many. Cora Hampson*

---

**cora hampson** - July 21, 2023 at 03:49 PM

BW

“ *Barb Wallace lit a candle in memory of Mr. Eugene Ross Lobe*



---

**Barb Wallace** - July 21, 2023 at 11:26 AM

SC

“ My deepest sympathy to Hilary, Rachel, Ivan and families. Gene was an awesome teacher colleague and as you iterate grandpa, dad and disaster services angel. He will be sorely missed by many 🙏



---

**Shirley Crawford** - July 20, 2023 at 04:26 PM

MC

“ Hilary, Rachel & Ivan; my deepest condolences to all of you & your families. Your dad was a great man. I still have fond memories of him as my grade 4 teacher.



---

**Michele (Derbecker) Connors** - July 17, 2023 at 11:28 PM

GC

“ Condolences to Gene’s family on the loss of a great man. We enjoyed times spent with Gene in past years. An honest and caring individual. Now again beside Betty’s side. Remember the good times as a family including Mom.  
RIP Gene.  
God bless all of you and take care of yourselves.  
Gerry and Barb

---

**Gerry and Barb Coakwell** - July 17, 2023 at 05:32 PM

DO

“ My sincere Condolences to You and Your Family.  
I'm so sorry for Your lost💔  
Your Dad was Wonderful Person ❤️  
I gone miss Him 💔  
You and Your Family are in my Prayers 🙏  
Dorota and Family

---

**Dorota** - July 16, 2023 at 09:17 PM

GM

“ It was my very great honour to be a teaching colleague of Gene Lobe. His excellent teaching skills, warm personality and neat sense of humour, made “being at school” an happy and profitable experience for students and colleagues alike. My deepest condolences to the Lobe family.

---

**Gail Dennis Moisey** - July 14, 2023 at 11:49 PM

DF

“ Condolenses to your family

Cousins

Shirley Koprek  
Deanna Froese  
Mildred Remple

---

**deanna froese** - July 14, 2023 at 11:35 PM

DF

Love and prayers

---

**deanna froese** - July 14, 2023 at 11:36 PM

SW

“ I was hired for the STEP program at Spitzee School way back when...Gene was one of my favorite Staff members. He was so welcoming & genuine. May wonderful memories heal your broken hearts in the days to come. A life well lived.



*Sharon & Russ Watkins*

---

**Sharon & Russ Watkins** - July 14, 2023 at 10:10 PM

JU

“ Our deepest Condolences to you all.  
*From the Goffinet's*

---

**Julie** - July 13, 2023 at 10:55 PM

AC

“ My deepest condolences to Hilary, Rachel, and Ivan and families for the loss of your beloved Father and Grandfather! He was a kind, admirable, wise man who will be missed greatly. May the memories of him bring comfort to each of you as you continue your journey of life with only his spirit to guide you now. Love and Hugs from my heart to you!❤️



---

**Andrea e Cox** - July 13, 2023 at 01:44 PM

JM

“ Hi Lobes and family all. My deepest condolences on the loss of Gene. Although I regrettably hadn't seen him too much this last while, he is a person that we all need to emulate more... thoughtful, intelligent, kind, generous of spirit and truly altruistic. Ivan, Rachel, Hilary and families - as Gene joins Betty for their next chapter leaving all with fond and loving memories, you remain their true and best legacy . Hugs and prayers to you all. Jeff



---

**Jeff Markowski** - July 13, 2023 at 01:30 AM

BR

“ Gene and Betty were the gracious hosts of the 50th nursing class reunion in September 2016. There was a very good turnout of classmates and a very good time was had by all who attended. Gene attended a dinner with Betty's classmates in St Albert before COVID and again a good time was had by all. They both will be sorely missed. Billie Rae

---

**Billie Rae** - July 12, 2023 at 05:33 PM

SG

“ We share our deep condolences with your family and friends. Gene's laughter, quick sense of humour and kindness shall be remembered and cherished. Sue and Chris Goode

---

**Sue Goode** - July 12, 2023 at 03:32 PM

BP

“ Knowing Gene as a colleague and friend, he was to many of us a gentle, respected soul with a huge heart. His life was filled with journeys and memories. My friend you will be missed by us all. 💕💕

---

**Brian Popowitch** - July 12, 2023 at 01:46 PM

DH

“ *Donna Hopkins lit a candle in memory of Mr. Eugene Ross Lobe*



Donna Hopkins - July 12, 2023 at 12:03 PM



“ *Angie McCormick lit a candle in memory of Mr. Eugene Ross Lobe*



Angie McCormick - July 12, 2023 at 11:26 AM

RD

“ *Hilary and family sorry for the loss of your Dad. Rosemary Derbecker and family*



Rosemary Derbecker - July 12, 2023 at 09:15 AM

FP

“ *I taught at the Composite, so wasn't on Gene's staff. But I always knew him as a kind, caring man of whom colleagues spoke highly. He is sure to be missed by many.*

Fran Porter - July 11, 2023 at 11:37 PM

JO

“ Heavens to Murgatroyd!!! After all the years I can still hear him lol . He was an amazing man that will live in the memories and hearts of so many students. I will remember him fondly, and I send my deepest condolences to the family.



jodi - July 11, 2023 at 10:01 PM

JT

“ The Lobe’s were our next door neighbours growing up in High River, I spent many many days next door as a child with the Lobe kids and have great memories. I was also lucky enough to have Mr. Lobe as a 5th grade teacher, he was a wonderful, kind man, I can’t say enough good things about him and Betty, truly amazing people. Deepest condolences from the entire Tally family, so sorry for your loss.

James Tally - July 11, 2023 at 05:10 PM

SW

“ Ivan, Rachel & Hilary my condolences.



Sherry Whitford - July 11, 2023 at 11:49 AM

ME

Our deepest condolences to the Lobe family

Marlene and Karl Epp - July 11, 2023 at 03:52 PM

LB

“ I'm pretty sure I was one of Mr. Lobe's most challenging students! But I do remember him being a kind, fair and patient teacher with a beautiful booming voice. Sincere condolences to his family. ~ Linda (Bradley) Berti

Linda Berti - July 11, 2023 at 11:13 AM

GL

“ Sincere condolences to the Lobe family. Cherish your memories and take comfort knowing he's been re-united with your mom, Betty.  
Grace



Grace Ledoux - July 11, 2023 at 09:32 AM

TW

“ Sympathy on the passing of a wonderful father, grandfather and friend. Gene will be remembered and missed by all who knew him. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of the family at this difficult time. Hugs from Terry and Wayne.

Terry and Wayne Wilderman - July 11, 2023 at 09:26 AM

GP

“ Geri And Al Polanchek lit a candle in memory of Mr. Eugene Ross Lobe



Geri and Al Polanchek - July 10, 2023 at 11:51 PM

DP

“ *Diane Porter lit a candle in memory of Mr. Eugene Ross Lobe*



---

**Diane Porter** - July 10, 2023 at 11:31 PM

PH

“ *I remember Gene as a fine and principled fellow teacher and of course, a parent with Betty of their wonderful children, Ivan, Rachel and Hilary. My condolences to you all. Penny Hajdu*

---

**Penny Hajdu** - July 10, 2023 at 10:59 PM

TB

“ *Although I wasn't lucky enough to have Gene as a teacher, I was lucky enough to have him as a colleague. What a wonderful man, so patient and kind. Please accept my most sincere condolences* 💜  
*Tammy*

---

**Tammy Beach** - July 10, 2023 at 10:52 PM

EB

“ *My most sincere Condolences to the family of Gene. I have many great memories.*  
*Ed Bagyinka*

---

**Edward L Bagyinka** - July 10, 2023 at 09:30 PM

AS

“ To the Lobe Family My condolences on the passing of your father and grandfather. Although I personally didn't know Gene that well , my daughter Elyse thought he was a wonderful teacher and had a great deal of respect for him. I'm sure you will miss him but he will be with Betty again and that is at least some consolation. Yours in sadness Addie Sorkilmo

-----  
**Addie Sorkilmo** - July 10, 2023 at 08:59 PM

KC

“ Kathy Cuthbertson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Eugene Ross Lobe



-----  
**Kathy Cuthbertson** - July 10, 2023 at 07:14 PM

JH

“ To Gene's Family, sending sincere condolences to each of you for the loss of your dear Dad and Grandfather. Cherish the many memories you share of him.

-----  
**Judy and Harvie** - July 10, 2023 at 04:34 PM

LS

“ Linda M Schafer lit a candle in memory of Mr. Eugene Ross Lobe



-----  
**Linda M Schafer** - July 10, 2023 at 04:20 PM

CJ

“ *My Sincere Condolences to all of Eugene's family. Rest in Peace.* ”

---

**Connie Jewell** - July 10, 2023 at 02:34 PM

SS

“ *Sheila Mae Storoschuk lit a candle in memory of Mr. Eugene Ross Lobe* ”



---

**Sheila Mae Storoschuk** - July 10, 2023 at 11:58 AM