



## Mr. John Mackie Niven

July 10, 1940 - April 6, 2024

John Mackie Niven passed away at the High River Hospital on Saturday April 6, 2024 at the age of 83 years. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother and true friend to all that knew him.

John is survived by his wife Sharon, daughter Terri (Neil) and their children Jordan (Brittney), Keaton (Natasha), Mackenzie, Colton, and Steele; daughter Jacquie (Lindsay) and their son Reyd. Along with his great grandchildren, Bo & Harper and Ryker & Swayzie.

He is also survived by his sisters Nola (Allan) Lueck, Rilla Loucks and Terry (Harold) Beebe. As well as his sister-in-laws Ann (Bob) Urch, Sandy (Leonard) Stringer and brother-in-law Tony (Iris) Irwin. As well as numerous nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents Stephen & Lallie, his in-laws; Charlie & Rose Irwin, sisters Margot, Wilma, Nan and their husbands; Dave, Paul & Dave. Sister-in-law Carole Trapp and her husband Mac. As well as nephews Tim Lueck, Brian Lueck, Stephen Loucks, Keith Eamon and niece Vicki Stringer.

John was born July 10, 1940 in Regina Saskatchewan. Of the 7 siblings he was the only boy with a brood of sisters to keep him in line. The family lived in

Indian Head, Saskatchewan for many years in a home that not only included them but their grandparents as well.

John and Sharon were married on October 5th, 1963 in Airdrie, Alberta. In the early years they made their home in Provost, Alberta where they started their family while John worked at the Provost Hospital. He took his Engineering through correspondence and would travel to Edmonton to write the exams. While in Provost he oversaw the construction of a new hospital and became the Director of Facilities upon its completion. Soon a call from Ron Gorsche would present a new opportunity to come to High River, so the family packed up and headed out in December 1979. Again, he would oversee the construction, but of a much larger hospital and be the Director of Facilities once again.

Beneath that tall exterior and loud voice was a humble and kind man who would do anything for anyone. His life experiences and love of family made for many hours of conversation, something we will all miss. As a Papa he attended many school concerts, graduations, hockey games and dance recitals and could always be found in the crowd with being so tall.

He enjoyed the simple things in life, a good book, glass of wine, a great tv program, a game of crib and of course his family. Many hours were spent together on holidays, celebrating birthdays, camping trips and some travelling but ultimately, he was happiest at home.

After retirement he remained busy with consulting and of course there was always some sort of project his daughters and grandkids needed his expert advice and help with. Even though he would say that is what I have son-in-laws for, he would still be there supervising.

There aren't enough words to capture what he meant to all of us. However, we

will treasure the time and memories made while he was. We were blessed to have him and all the wisdom and life lessons he shared for which we will be eternally grateful for. He truly believed that everyone deserved a chance no matter what the circumstances.

A heartfelt thank you to all the doctors and staff on the 3rd floor of High River Hospital and all those who took time to visit during his stay there. It is somewhat ironic that he passed away in the facility that he oversaw the construction of and then was the Director of Facilities until his retirement.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that you consider making a donation to the High River District Health Care Foundation in his memory.

A Celebration of Life will be announced at a later date.

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

# Tribute Wall

LK

“ Dear Sharon, Terri and Family,  
Sending my deepest condolences in the loss of such a great man. I was blessed to have worked with John at the High River Hospital for many years. He was such a character. I just loved what a straight shooter he always was. There was no slacking off when he was at the helm. We missed him for many years at the Hospital once he retired. Rest easy my friend.  
Lee-Ann King and family.



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**LEE-ANN KING** - April 24, 2024 at 01:01 AM

BJ

“ Bernie Janssen lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Mackie Niven



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**Bernie Janssen** - April 22, 2024 at 11:30 PM



“ Our deepest sympathy Sharon, Terri, Jacque and families in the passing of a dear husband, father, grandfather & great grandfather. He will be missed. Having worked at the hospital with John for year's he was a no nonsense person but was a teddy bear at heart. Cherish all your memories of him at all your family gatherings close to your heart.

*Murray & Wilma Williamson  
Alana & Rob  
Trent, Kristal, Ryan & Tyler*

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**Wilma Williamson** - April 21, 2024 at 04:19 PM

JA

“ *Julia Allan lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Mackie Niven*



Julia Allan - April 14, 2024 at 08:14 AM

SC

“ *Uncle John was a big part of our family growing up. We always enjoyed the Nivens visits. Was so good to connect this last summer* ❤️



Susan Clifford - April 13, 2024 at 08:55 PM

SL

“ *Steve Laycraft lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Mackie Niven*



Steve Laycraft - April 13, 2024 at 12:58 PM

BG

“ *Buck Groeneveld lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Mackie Niven*



Buck Groeneveld - April 12, 2024 at 09:57 PM

KC

“ Sharon and family, I am already missing John as a neighbor and as a friend. John and I started work at the hospital (the old hospital) at close to the same time. We had many conversations about the design of the new hospital . And although he was forthright when you met him, after a bit - he was a kind, considerate and helpful person.  
Our more recent conversations included many memories of both the new and old hospital. Many laughs.  
My condolences to all. Know that I will be thinking of you and how much he is missed.

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**Kathy Cuthbertson** - April 12, 2024 at 11:13 AM

DR

“ John's family, thinking of you at this very sad time.  
I will always remember John as a warm, caring person. Sending a hug.

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**Daphne Rode** - April 12, 2024 at 10:42 AM

MD

“ Sending Heartfelt Condolences to you Terri and all of your Family.  
You a  
Always spoke so proudly of your Dad.

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**Michele Durand** - April 11, 2024 at 07:01 PM

LG

“ Sorry for the loss of John. He was a great boss when I worked with him at the end of building High River Hospital to 1990, when we moved to BC. I have a lot of great memories & laughs. R I P John.  
Louise Garies

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**Louise Garies** - April 11, 2024 at 06:22 PM

ES

“ *Eunice Schmuland lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Mackie Niven*



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**Eunice Schmuland** - April 11, 2024 at 12:52 PM

GM

“ *Gerald Muri lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Mackie Niven*



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**Gerald Muri** - April 11, 2024 at 11:57 AM

CC

“ *My heartfelt sympathy to the Niven family. We are very fortunate to have had someone as committed as John to pick up and move his family here to help build and operate such an important fixture in our community. Thanks to him for the expertise and passion he brought to build and operation of the facility. While some people cautiously approached John, including me at first, I appreciated his directness and no-nonsense approach. You are all in my thoughts, Cathy*

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**Cathy Couey** - April 11, 2024 at 11:40 AM

LE

“ *Terri and family,  
We are so sorry for your loss. We are thinking of you at this difficult time.  
Lesley and Dave Ewing*

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**Lesley Ewing** - April 10, 2024 at 09:29 PM

JC

“ Jeff Callahan lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Mackie Niven



Jeff Callahan - April 10, 2024 at 09:01 PM

EM

“ Like many of us who worked at the Hospital, I was at first scared to ask John for help or advice. It didn't take long before we discovered that sense of care, humour and hard work that John really was. Your family will have so many memories to carry you forward.

Elaine Mason - April 10, 2024 at 08:20 PM

GC

“ Gerry And Glenda Cutforth lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Mackie Niven



Gerry and Glenda Cutforth - April 10, 2024 at 06:56 PM

CM

“ Charlene Malmberg lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Mackie Niven



Charlene Malmberg - April 10, 2024 at 05:46 PM

CA

“ Mrs. Niven, Terri, Jacquie and families. I was so sorry to hear of the passing of your husband and dad. The obituary is such a lovely tribute to his life and accomplishments. I have fond memories of him attending some of our school functions as a teen. The loss of a husband & parent is a very tough one. May you lean on each other in the coming days and months for love and support. Thinking of all of you at this difficult time. Sending love and hugs.

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**Connie Anderson** - April 10, 2024 at 05:25 PM

MS

“ Terri and families. My deepest condolences on your loss. Sending good wishes your way

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**Myrna Shoults** - April 10, 2024 at 05:10 PM

KW

“ Sharon, Terri, Jacquie and Families,  
I am so sorry for your loss. I have very fond memories of John. I think my favorite memory is when John and Sharon would regularly come over to play cards with my Mom and Dad. I was just a teenager when their friendship began, but I loved listening to my Dad and John in conversations. A very special friendship was developed through all those years. May beautiful memories, fill your broken hearts during these sad days ahead. Hugs to you all.  
Kendra Wegener xo

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**Kendra Wegener** - April 10, 2024 at 04:34 PM

BP

“ *Barb Pickering lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Mackie Niven*



Barb Pickering - April 10, 2024 at 02:44 PM

GP

“ *Geri And Al Polanchek lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Mackie Niven*



Geri and Al Polanchek - April 10, 2024 at 10:27 AM

RD

“ *Rosemary Derbecker lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Mackie Niven*



Rosemary Derbecker - April 10, 2024 at 09:07 AM

KC

“ *Kathy Cuthbertson lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Mackie Niven*



Kathy Cuthbertson - April 09, 2024 at 04:57 PM

TE

“ Terry lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Mackie Niven



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**Terry** - April 09, 2024 at 04:20 PM

TE

*In my heart always. Rest in Peace John.*

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**Terry** - April 09, 2024 at 04:24 PM

HA

“ May You Rest In Peace John.



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**Harold** - April 09, 2024 at 04:16 PM