



## Mr. John William Zryd

July 19, 1939 - December 10, 2019

John William Zryd of High River, Alberta died peacefully on December 10th, 2019 at the age of 80 years with his loving wife Janet Klie by his side. John is also survived by his sons David (Nancy), Michael (Tess), and Bob (Sally); stepdaughter Andrea; grandchildren Sam, Jonah, Annie, William, and Adrian; sisters Barb Wright (David), and Trish Collins (Matt); as well as Janet's sisters and their families.

Known for his kindness, wit, and good nature, John was an active community member, and led a full and active life. John was born in Winnipeg but the family (father Claire and mother Kathleen) soon moved to Moose Jaw, SK. He began his career as a Flying Officer in the Canadian Air Force before starting his passion as a scuba dive instructor and store owner in Nova Scotia, where he raised his three sons. John moved his family to Calgary, where he embraced an active lifestyle as president of the Alberta Triathlon Association. He suffered a massive stroke in 1986 but showed his resilience by making a remarkable recovery and resuming his passion for sports through cycling. He completed his bachelor's degree at the University of Calgary where he met the love of his life, Janet in 1993.

In High River, he was a master woodworker, a member of the United Church, and a member of the Cornerstone Masons, who bestowed on him the rare honour of the Award of Merit in September 2019. Many thanks to the

wonderful staff that gave John such compassionate care at High River Long Term Care.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the charity of your choice.

A Memorial Service was held on December 17, 2019 at the High River United Church, 123 Macleod Trail SW, High River, AB.

Mr. John Zryd of High River, Alberta passed away at the High River Hospital on December 10, 2019 at the age of 80 years.

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

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life Service

DEC 17. 11:00 AM (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

MP

“ I remember John very well. I was a young kid in trouble and John with Peggy took me in. It was a hard time for me but he changed my life. Sorry to hear of his loss. His family meant a lot to me and I cherish those times. Diving for scallops and teaching me scuba.

Mike Pilon - April 05, 2023 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ Dear Janet and family,  
We were so sorry to hear of John's passing. We appreciated his kindness, zest for life, resilience, and sense of humour. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as you move forward without him. Love David and Karen Dempsey

Karen - January 22, 2020 at 02:59 PM

CN

“ Janet and family,  
We were so sorry to hear of John's passing. Although we didn't know him long we soon learned he had quite a remarkable life. We could tell he had a sense of humor and was a gentle soul.  
With sincere sympathy,  
Cyril & Bev



Cyril and Bev Norrie - January 04, 2020 at 09:09 PM

PH

“ Penny Hajdu lit a candle in memory of Mr. John William Zryd



Penny Hajdu - January 01, 2020 at 04:51 PM

MU

“ Dear Janet and families, My thoughts are many toward you. I am happy for John to be in a healthy place. It is a very real, life changer for you Janet. John was good at laughing. I just met him about two years ago. Love to you precious Janet.

marilyn ulriksen - December 28, 2019 at 01:29 PM

BP

“ I first met John close to twenty years ago when he redid a dining table that was a special gift from my late wife Dellann's grandmother. His special care to the wood showed me how he cared. Always a smile, laugh or story. Janet, I thank you for sharing this special man with us💕💕

Brian Popowitch - December 18, 2019 at 11:48 AM

BH

“ John was an amazing man! It was a gift to have known him.

Bill Holmes - December 17, 2019 at 11:59 PM

RK

“ We all have some beautiful memories of John and his sense of humour. Our thoughts are with you Janet and your family. With our love, Ralph and Susan

Ralph and Susan Keith - December 17, 2019 at 09:37 PM

LK

“ Janet and family,  
I am sending my love to you as you celebrate the life of a very dear, funny and loving man. I am so glad I had the opportunity to spend a little time and get to know John. Please know that you are surrounded by loving and caring friends at this time.

Lyn Klamph

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Lyn Klamph - December 17, 2019 at 11:23 AM

GL

“ Janet,  
I am sorry for your loss and send sincere condolences. I hope your memories of John will comfort and carry you through the difficult days ahead. It was a pleasure knowing John.  
Grace



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Grace Ledoux - December 17, 2019 at 08:51 AM

RM

“ 1 file added to the album John's Activities



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Ron Murch - December 15, 2019 at 09:09 PM

SD

“ *Sheri Dwernychuk lit a candle in memory of Mr. John William Zryd*



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**Sheri Dwernychuk** - December 14, 2019 at 01:14 PM

DR

“ *So sorry to hear of John's passing! We so loved having him in Adult Day Program! He had such a wonderful sense of humour and an infectious smile! He had some wonderful stories of his life experiences and family!  
May you find comfort in these things!*

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**Debbie Remple** - December 14, 2019 at 12:30 PM

BZ

“ *Janet and family,  
Such a pleasure to get to know John.  
We would share many smiles and jokes. The two of you were soul mates. I loved how John pursued his love of life and adventure. You and yours are in my thoughts and prayers....*

*Brenda Zdunich*

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**Brenda Zdunich** - December 14, 2019 at 12:07 PM

DC

“ Janet,  
It was truly an honor to have met John and to have gotten to know him as I did.  
Everyday I would look for him and made sure to shake his hand and to say hello. I always asked him how he was doing. I thoroughly enjoyed talking to him and seeing him smile. He has a great sense of humor and I loved making him laugh as he had a great smile. He had very kind eyes and a gentle aura about him.  
I will truly miss him.  
Janet, I'm sure he is watching over you.

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**Daniel Chicoine** - December 14, 2019 at 12:48 AM

TM

“ John and Janet were the best neighbours ever! My strongest memory of John is after the flood, weeks after the flood, I was still trying to salvage what I could, and it got to me, and there was John asking for a hug. I never needed a hug more in my life, and John was there for me. Never forget Sam cutest kid ever. Love and prayers to you Janet, Sam and Andrea. Terry and Tom

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**Terry Michalkow** - December 13, 2019 at 07:14 PM

JH

“ Janet I am so sorry to hear of John's passing. He seemed such a kind and gentle soul, always with a ready smile. Thinking of you and hoping you will find comfort in your memories through the days ahead.

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**Jill Henheffer** - December 13, 2019 at 01:07 PM

SC

“ Sarah Choi lit a candle in memory of Mr. John William Zryd



Sarah Choi - December 12, 2019 at 11:07 PM

KN

“ Kathy Niemans lit a candle in memory of Mr. John William Zryd



Kathy Niemans - December 12, 2019 at 02:53 PM

CJ

“ Dear Janet and John's family. What a treasure to have met and associated with John over the past few years. Such a character. I hold you gently in my heart and thoughts at this difficult time Janet, praying that your happier times will soon overtake the sadder ones. Blessings to you all.

Connie Jewell - December 12, 2019 at 11:36 AM

SC

“ Janet, Sam and Andrea we are thinking of you and praying for you at this sad time. A dear and humorous soul is now gracing heaven. He will be missed.  
We really need to have that tea Janet!!!  
Shirley, Darryl and Jordan



shirley Crawford - December 12, 2019 at 11:34 AM

KF

“ Dear Janet, John soldiered on with spirit, grace and a wonderful sense of humor with you by his side . Paul said he was truly what Masonry was about. Remembering the fun times . Peace be with you.

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**Karen Fraser** - December 12, 2019 at 11:11 AM

EM

“ Janet, we mourn the loss of a gentle, caring spirit, who overcame many obstacles, with determination and a quiet smile. You and John shared your strength and joy with many of us I am thankful to have known John

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**Elaine Mason** - December 12, 2019 at 11:07 AM

KC

“ Dear Janet- I'm grateful to have had John's kind and giving spirit while sharing the St. Benedict journey. May you be blessed with many lasting moments to treasure in this time of sadness. John's multi-ingredient muffins were such a treat, and always made with such enthusiasm to share. A big hug of love to you, my friend.



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**karen crawford** - December 12, 2019 at 09:59 AM

DG

“ Janet and family, thinking of you during this difficult time, sending my sincere condolences.

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**Deb Gross** - December 11, 2019 at 10:35 PM

BM

“ Dear Janet,

*Our hearts are so sad for you. You and John were always the "Happy Couple", a name aptly given to you by our girls. We are so glad we were able to have a quick visit with John a couple of weeks ago. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Brenda, Graham, Mallory, Leah and Paige McCredie*

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**Brenda and Graham McCredie** - December 11, 2019 at 10:22 PM