



Milton Wesley Rainey

April 17, 2020

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Milton on April 17, 2020 at age 80. He lived his married life in Whitby until being hospitalized in April 2018 then was a resident at Orchard Villa long-term care in Pickering from January 2019 until his death.

Beloved husband of Elaine (Medd) for over 52 years, father of sons Gene (wife Sandy) and Mark, grandfather of Nolan (deceased), Travis, and Kendall.

Brother to Arlene Coates (Leonard), Carl (dec.) (Ellen), and Charles (Cheryl), and brother-in-law to Harold Medd (dec.), Lawrence Medd (Grace, dec.), and Betty Louise Medd (Phillip).

Milton was born in the Orono area on July 16, 1939, and music was a mainstay in his whole life, from singing around the piano at home to singing in the Orono and the Wilfred and Cannington church choirs and the Bowmanville and Oshawa Choral Societies. After marriage Milton sang with St. Mark's United Church choir and The County Town Singers, and was a beloved member of The Oshawa Barbershoppers Chorus (The Oshawa Horseless Carriagemen) and various quartets, as well as The Tri-City Gospel Chorus and a retired men's chorus in Markham called the SUBURBANaires, which he directed for many years.

Thirty-five years of teaching started at the schoolhouse in Hayden, then in Kedron (Principal also), in Whitby at Colborne Street and King Street Public Schools, and finally at Meadowcrest P.S. in Brooklin, where Milton taught for 19 years until his retirement in 1994. At school he only wanted the best for his students, academically and socially, and is fondly remembered by many of them.

A big sports enthusiast, Milton played baseball in various leagues as a young man, acted as manager for a hockey team, then coached his sons' baseball teams. For many years he watched his kids and grandkids playing sports from the bleachers, and we were all grateful that his health was good enough for him to attend his grandkids' hockey games in February.

Milton was very social and loved talking to people, always interested in their activities. Many remember him as a kind and warm-hearted man. In his retired years it was sports on TV, music, crossword puzzles, and reading the newspaper front to back that took up his time, as long as good health allowed. Even though he had dealt with health issues for

many years, ultimately it was the sudden symptoms from COVID-19 to which he unfortunately succumbed.

Milton will be lovingly remembered by his family, friends, colleagues and former students. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Donations in Milton's memory can be made to Sick Kid's Hospital, Toronto (<https://www.sickkidsfoundation.com/donate>), or a charity of your choice. Donations graciously appreciated in lieu of flowers.

Comments



“ Our condolences on the death of Milt. We remember him fondly from our years working with him at Meadowcrest P.S. May your memories sustain you through this very difficult time,

Bob and Sandy Cardinal

This picture is from a staff photo in 1984 at Meadowcrest - from Left to right top row: Milt, Bob Cardinal, middle row: Doreen Johnson, Helen Clark, bottom row: Linda Darling, Dianne Cruyton, Marlene Pike



Sandra Cardinal - May 26, 2020 at 04:17 PM



“ Elaine and Family,

Sincerest condolences. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Carole Murkar

Carole Murkar - May 09, 2020 at 01:18 PM



“ I was a student nurse working with Milton! It was always lovely to go talk with him throughout the day and see a welcoming smiling face! He will be greatly missed

Celine Singh-Williams - May 07, 2020 at 01:29 PM



“ Sending our condolences to you and your family from the Taylors. Fond memories of Milt from the extended family picnics over the years.
Joyce Taylor, Will&Carol, Val&Hal, Amber, Gayla&Jim

Gayla Boritz - May 05, 2020 at 09:39 AM



“ Dear Elaine. Our condolences to you and your family in Milt's passing. Jim taught with Milt at Meadowcrest P.S. You, Milt and your sons helped with our youth group leadership at St.Marks United Church. We will forever remember Milt's leadership and his love in sharing his musical talents. Very much saddened by his loss. Cherish those memories. Janice and Jim Hunter

Jim & Janice Hunter - May 03, 2020 at 08:35 AM



“ My deepest condolences to his family and friends. Mr. Rainey was one of my favourite teachers! He was fun, enthusiastic, encouraging, warm and outgoing. He used his God given gifts to bless others. I would go as far as to say the year he taught me was a turning point in my life. Without his influence I am most certainly sure my life would be different. He made it better. He brought out the best in his students and made them realize their own strengths and abilities and to have confidence in themselves. I am sure he is now reaping the rewards of a life of sowing good to so many. I am thankful my life crossed paths with his. Louise Cleland (nee Oke).

Louise Cleland - May 02, 2020 at 12:35 PM



“ WE were saddened at the News of Mr. Rainey. He taught our sons and daughter at Meadowcrest School,
He was so good to our daughter. He always give out little treats to them.
Our blessings to all the family. Bill and Mercine Oke

William Oke - May 01, 2020 at 08:58 AM



“ I was saddened to learn of Milt's passing. I played ball in Newcastle with Milt in our teen years. He was a good ballplayer and always had a happy outlook. I ran into Milt a few times over the years and he still had the happy outlook. I am sure your family will truly miss him. My sincere condolences. Dave McCullough

Dave McCullough - April 30, 2020 at 07:25 PM



“ We have fond memories of Milt. Our sincere condolences to Elaine and the Family.
Sincerely, Joe and Ingrid Thompson

Ingrid Thompson - April 30, 2020 at 07:22 PM



“ To the family. Please accept my sincere condolences on the passing of Milton. I knew him in his early teaching days...Kedron Public School. He roomed at the home of the Woods, their daughter being a friend of mine. He was lots of fun and from his lovely smile I am sure he was a happy and loving father grandfather and husband. I am sure your memories are comforting and enjoyable to share. Barbara Rose Tarbuck

Barbara Tarbuck - April 30, 2020 at 03:08 PM



“ Mrs. Rainey...
I have just learned of Mr. Raney's passing.
So sorry for your loss.

Vicki Sarginson

Vicki - April 29, 2020 at 05:22 PM



“ Mark, our condolences to you and your family. We never had the privilege of meeting your Dad, but your devotion to him said so much about his character .
Rest assured that he is now in a beautiful place .

Kindest regards,
Denise and Winston Marcellin

Winston Marcellin - April 27, 2020 at 02:16 PM



“ So very sorry for the loss of your Dad! He was such a lovely man and his smile is what I remember so much. It was a privilege to know him, such a gentle man. You are all in my prayers. Sending much love.

Sharon Nimmo and family

Sharon Nimmo - April 27, 2020 at 09:27 AM



“ Gene, Sandy, Mark and Family

So sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. Will always remember your Dad being a fixture at our ball games. A nicer man you will not find. Thoughts and prayers are with you.

Doug and Margaret McCorkell

Doug and Margaret McCorkell - April 26, 2020 at 08:31 PM



“ I always enjoyed spending time with Milt. We shared a love of music, sports, family, and faith. He always took an interest in our lives and family. He will be greatly missed!

Steve Allin - April 26, 2020 at 07:18 AM



“ I knew Milton during my time working at Orchard Villa. Every conversation I had left me smiling as he was the most kind and genuine man. Sending my condolences to his family.

Kayla Marshall - April 25, 2020 at 06:48 PM



“ Truly one of the kindest people I've ever known. Always smiling and left others with the inspiration to be kinder. Thankful to have known him. May peace be with Gene, Sandy, Mark, Elaine and the entire family.

Art McDonald - April 25, 2020 at 06:56 AM



“ Elaine, Doug and I want to send love and prayers to you and your family! God Bless!

Barbara Derry - April 25, 2020 at 11:00 AM



“ I never got the chance to meet Milton, but I have the privilege of knowing and being taught by his son Gene, and I can only imagine what a wonderful man Milton was by the son(s) he raised. Sending my love and sincerest condolences to the family and friends.

Andrea Morrison - April 25, 2020 at 04:49 AM



“ We send our deepest sympathy to Elaine and family on the sad passing of Milton. I always enjoyed our visits whenever we would meet and it was always easy to talk about musical interests and things in general. He had a great sense of humour and we always had some good laughs. We all miss people like this as they help to make our lives more enjoyable. May God give you peace and strength to go through the days ahead as you deal with Milton's loss. Special thoughts to all of you and to Mark. If we listen, we should be able to hear the heavenly choir switch into some great barbershop harmony anytime now. God bless. Jane and Ashton McMaster

Jane and Ashton McMaster - April 24, 2020 at 04:56 PM



“ This is from an former Orono gal...Judy Plummer(Tamblyn). We were almost neighbours of the Rainey family..in fact Arlene use to babysit us. We are so sorry to hear this news.. Use to have the odd conversation with Milton at some of the Barbershop shows and always appreciated talking to him there.

Judy Plummer - April 24, 2020 at 03:46 PM



“ Deepest sympathy to you all as you grieve and give thanks for a beautiful life well lived. Until we meet again Debbie Johnson

debbie johnson - April 24, 2020 at 03:27 PM



“ Milt was such a gracious guy who was always interested in others and SO proud of his family! I left every conversation with him feeling blessed and encouraged. God bless and be with you all as you celebrate an amazing life that will continue to inspire so many of us! And as I've said to Gene many times - the apple doesn't fall far from the tree! Love and prayers from the Holtom house :)

Jamie Holtom - April 24, 2020 at 01:01 PM



“ My condolences to all of you. My fond memories of Milt go back to Bowmanville High School when we were classmates. Our connection was our mutual love of music and singing. I have followed your difficult journey, via the Allins, since the Clements visited Milt in the hospital in April, 2018, and then travelled to the Peterborough hospital to visit my brother, Ken -- barbershoppers together and forever . I imagine a heavenly "afterglow" that would rival those at the international barbershop convention. May memories of all that you shared comfort you.
Marion Buttery.

Marion Buttery - April 23, 2020 at 07:52 PM



“ Many fond memories of friendly gatherings (especially the Oliver's annual Christmas sing-along party) with Mr. Rainey and the many families that regularly gathered. Passing along our thoughts and condolences to Gene, Mark, and Elaine, as well as his extended family during this difficult time. We keep you all in our thoughts and prayers.
Chris and Suzanne Plue and Family

Chris Plue - April 23, 2020 at 07:01 PM



“ Me Rainey was such an awesome teacher, he made Geography classes that much more interesting. Always kind and smiling!

Julie Lewis (Dayes)
Meadowcrest Public School

julie lewis - April 23, 2020 at 01:32 PM



“ We are so very sorry for your loss. May peace and comfort find you in this difficult time.
Wanda and Lee Adams

wanda and Lee Adams - April 24, 2020 at 04:18 PM



“ I remember Mr. Rainey very fondly as my grade 7 teacher at Meadowcrest. His classroom was always a welcoming place of learning. He was a lovely, kind man. I am sorry to hear of his passing.

Christine (Dayes) Monteiro - April 23, 2020 at 01:26 PM



“ Gene, Sandy & Family;

Our deepest condolences to you all and your family on your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this incredibly difficult time.

Bob, Nichole, Andrew & Declan Kelly - April 22, 2020 at 09:12 PM



“ Elaine and family,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family while you grieve the sudden loss of Milton due to Covid 19. We will always remember his love of music, his sense of humour and quiet demeanour. May you find solace in knowing that he is at peace.
Sincerely Joan and Bob Bowman

Joan and Bob Bowman - April 22, 2020 at 04:39 PM



“ So sorry to hear about Miltons passing.

Our thoughts and prayers are you.

Brenda & Jim Finders

jim Finders - April 22, 2020 at 04:20 PM



“ My heart was very sad to hear of Milton’s passing. I had the privilege of singing in the St. Mark’s Chancel Choir with Milton for many years. He had a beautiful tenor voice that was clean and clear. He had perfect pitch.

Not only did Milton have a wonderful singing voice, he was ever gracious, a true gentleman. He always made everyone he met feel he truly cared for them.

My sincere condolences to Elaine and her family, I pray you will find peace at this sad time. I am sure Milton has joined the Heavenly Choir, proudly singing praises to God.

CarolynJohnston.

Carolyn Johnston - April 22, 2020 at 04:04 PM



“ Milton was in the St Mark’s Church choir and stood behind me.He had an amazing voice, great sense of humour, wonderful chuckle and huge presence.He always led the Christmas eve sing song at the 7 pm service. Milton was compassionate, thoughtful, and generous making sure no one was left out.He was a gentleman and well respected by our church family.We will miss you Milton.My deepest condolences to your family.

Dorothy Pierce - April 22, 2020 at 03:04 PM



“ Mr. Rainey was my grade teacher at Meadowcrest. He is always remembered as one of my favourites. I remember him bringing us watermelon to share. I am so sorry for your loss.

Debbie Hope - April 22, 2020 at 10:54 AM



“ Dear Gene and family,

My heart goes out to you all right now. Coach Gene, we never had a chance to meet your Dad but I'm sure he must have been a lovely gentleman to have had a hand in the upbringing of such a wonderful man.

With all our best wishes,
The Mandeville family

Rebecca - April 22, 2020 at 08:40 AM



“ My sincere condolences to family and friends. My thoughts are with you all. Mr. Rainey was one of my most memorable teachers at Meadowcrest P.S. where he was my Grade 7 teacher, as well as my Grade 8 Geography teacher. I will always remember Mr. Rainey for his good nature, kind heart, and barber shop singing. He will never be forgotten. Love, Leanne Cole (Channell).

Leanne Channell - April 22, 2020 at 08:23 AM



“ Deepest condolences on the loss of Milton. Wishing you all comfort and peace in the days to come. Elaine and Vaughn Collins

Elaine Collins - April 22, 2020 at 08:01 AM



“ Mrs. Rainey, Gene, Mark & families. I'm very sorry to hear about the passing of Mr. Rainey. Even tho I was a neighbour up the street for about 21 yrs, I never got to know him, but he always had a warm smile and wave when walking or driving by. On a facebook group - Vintage Whitby - there were many kind words and tributes. Mr Rainey seemed to be a very well loved & respected man. He had a gentle aura about him. May he rest in peace. Please know you're in my thoughts. My sincerest condolences to you all. Carole-lea Dettman.

Carole-lea Dettman - April 22, 2020 at 01:15 AM



“ Dave and I are so sorry to hear of Milton’s passing. We’ll miss seeing him at Ball games and Hockey games. Rest In Peace Milton. You will be missed.

Dave and Judy Brewer - April 21, 2020 at 08:22 PM



“ Milt was a talented and patient teacher and musician; a gentle force with warmth and sense of humour. What joy and fun he brought to his beloved Suburbanaires.



Al Vetter - April 21, 2020 at 06:00 PM



“ Going to miss this kind soul with whom I shared many things not the least of which was our love of all things chocolate!



Sandy Rainey - April 21, 2020 at 05:49 PM



“ 5 files added to the album Memories Album



Sandy Rainey - April 21, 2020 at 05:46 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Gene Rainey - April 21, 2020 at 02:25 PM



“ On the occasions I was lucky enough to share with your family Gene, your Dad was always so kind and welcoming. He was a kind and wonderful man who will be greatly missed. All my love to you and your family

Amanda - April 21, 2020 at 08:39 PM



“ Dear Gene and Family. I'm so sorry to hear of your Dads passing He will always be just a thought and conversation away One very comforting fact is that your darling Nolan was there waiting for him please take care my thoughts and prayers are with you all. Take Care. Genny xo

genny morgan - April 21, 2020 at 08:53 PM



“ My deepest sympathy and condolences to Gene, Sandy, Travis, Kendall and the Rainey family. May your memories comfort you and your faith sustain you during this difficult time. Rolf

Rolf Mantei - April 22, 2020 at 12:51 PM



“ Just a brief note to express our sincere sympathy to the Rainey family at this sad time. Milt was a quiet, caring and kind teacher who dearly loved his music. I have memories of him playing baseball with the Sunderland Tigers coached by my Dad, Graydon.

Sincerely,
John and Mary Hogg

John & Mary Hogg - April 24, 2020 at 09:31 PM



“ Elaine and family my sincere sympathy for the loss of Milton he was a wonderful man whom I have known since I was a secretary at King Street school in Whitby, and a member of St Marks United Church. You were the best teacher for Debbie and David they often mention you when we get talking about school years. My prayers and thoughts are with you and the family.

Pat Wilcox.

Patricia M Wilcox - April 26, 2020 at 11:37 AM



“ Dear Mrs Rainey,

You may not remember me. I was a student of yours at Colborne Street Senior Public School the last two years it was open.

I supply taught at Meadowcrest P.S. where I met Mr. Rainey several times . He was always friendly and helpful. I am so sorry for your sudden loss and you have my sincere condolences. May your faith in our Lord Jesus sustain you and your family.

Joan Van Dewart

Joan Van Dewart - April 30, 2020 at 07:15 PM