



Brian Joseph Cormier

August 29, 2025

Brian Joseph Cormier, 78, of Toronto, Ontario, passed away peacefully on August 29, 2025, following a courageous battle with cancer.

A devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, brother-in-law, and friend, Brian faced his illness with unwavering strength, optimism, and grace. He touched the lives of all who knew him with his humour, generosity, and love for life.

Born on April 30, 1947, in Sydney, Nova Scotia, to George and Rosella Cormier, Brian spent his early years surrounded by family and community before moving to Toronto, where he grew up.

He attended De La Salle High School, a period that would shape much of his life. There, he discovered his love for music and fellowship through the school's drum corps, developing friendships and a passion for music that would follow him for life.

After school, Brian's professional journey reflected his curiosity, enthusiasm, and adaptability. He worked for Gray Line Bus Tours, where his love for the tourism industry first took root.

Always seeking new challenges, he tried his hand

with the Toronto Transit Commission in an accounting position. He soon came to realize his energy and leadership skills were better suited elsewhere.

His next stop was Boat Tours International at Toronto's waterfront—an environment that matched his appetite for a challenging opportunity. Brian loved being near the water, and the occasional use of the owner's speedboat added to his enthusiasm for this new position.

Eventually he was offered a position as Director of Operations at Casa Loma where he stayed until retirement.

Brian enjoyed his new role and particularly enjoyed his involvement in film shoots at Casa Loma. He thrived on the excitement of the industry, meeting actors, crew members and industry executives. His warmth and humour made a lasting impression on the people he met as well as colleagues, some of whom became lifelong friends.

It was during his time working in Toronto's tourism community that Brian met the love of his life, Joan. He was attending a business event located in the indoor observation deck at the top of the CN Tower. Joan worked at the CN Tower in Public Relations and was also attending the same event with colleagues.

Their story began at the CN Tower, and, with characteristic charm and initiative, she introduced herself to him.

They married on May 12, 1984, beginning a

marriage filled with love, laughter, shared adventures, and enduring partnership.

Brian found a new joy in travelling. He and Joan went to New York, Los Angeles, San Diego, London and Paris. They took vacations to Quebec, Ireland, Mexico, the Caribbean, Las Vegas and Florida and celebrated their 25th anniversary on a memorable Mediterranean Cruise.

Brian also embraced a new role as stepfather to Ryan, then nine years old, a role he filled with patience, love, and pride.

He will be deeply missed by his wife Joan, his Stepson Ryan (Tanya) Shears, Grandchildren Tyonna, Ryan Jr. and Malcolm; Brother Wayne (Maggie), Niece Sara, Nephew Paul; Brother-in-law John (Jeannine) Dowley, Sister-in-law Maura (John) Kolesznyk; nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

He is also survived by his son Darrin. He was predeceased by his brother Robert "Bud" and his parents, George and Rosella.

A Celebration of Life will be held in the spring or early summer of 2026, with details to be shared once confirmed.

As we remember Brian, we hold close the words that reflect his spirit best:

"Death leaves a void that no one can heal, but love leaves memories that no one can steal."

Irish Proverb

Tribute Wall

JC

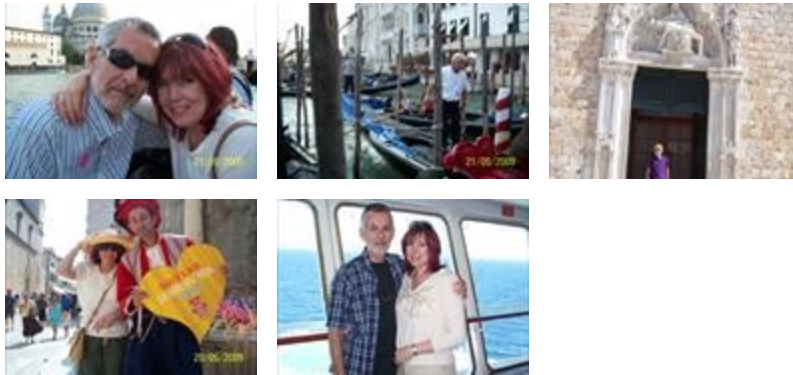
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Joan Cormier - October 16, 2025 at 11:43 AM

JC

“ 13 files added to the tribute wall



Joan Cormier - October 16, 2025 at 10:08 AM

TF

“ *Brian, our hearts are broken!*

You will be sorely missed as a shining beacon of hope with your courageous battle against Cancer!

Your humour, wisdom & warmth was so infectious and you were always enthusiastic for the day!

Joan & family I, we are sending our heartfelt sympathies & condolences and may you find comfort in the love & support of those around you!

Love The Harris family ❤️

the Harris Fsmily - October 16, 2025 at 09:17 AM

CL

Joan, condolences to you and your family.

Colleen Logan - October 16, 2025 at 03:49 PM

JC

Thank you Colleen

Joan Cormier - October 16, 2025 at 06:58 PM

MK

Dear Joan,

There are no words that can truly hold the weight of what you've endured, nor the heartbreak of watching someone so deeply loved face such a cruel and relentless illness. Brian's courage through it all was nothing short of extraordinary -- but even more enduring was the love you shared through so many years of devotion and understanding.

Brian was the kind of person whose compassion ran deep. He had a way of making people feel cared for, without needing to be asked.

The love he showed to Ryan, Tyonna, Ryan Jr., Malcom, and Ryan's fiancée Tanya was unmistakable -- genuine, generous and full of pride. I'm sure they'll always carry his love in all their memories of him.

I hope you can feel, even in this sorrow, how much he was cherished -- not just by you, but by all of us who were lucky enough to know him. And I hope you know how deeply we admire your strength, your love and the grace with which you were beside him through every step of this painful journey.

*With all our love and deepest sympathy,
Maura and John*

Maura Kolesnyk - October 16, 2025 at 10:34 PM

JC

Thank you Maura. I will always carry him in my heart ❤️

Joan Cormier - October 17, 2025 at 02:05 PM

DB

Hi Joan, I remmber when you two met. You were magical, and went on to lead a very joyous life. I am truly sorry for the pain you're in now, it will lessen in time. Cherish the memories and the time you had together.

With sympathy,

Dorothy Wilkinson Burns

Dorothy Wilkinson Burns - October 19, 2025 at 06:08 AM

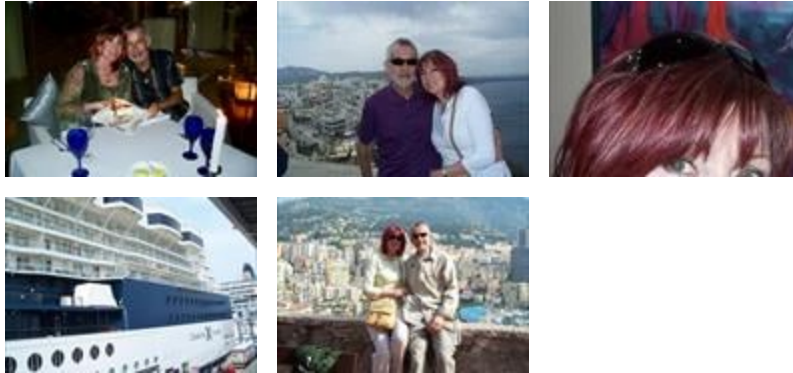
CD

Joan always thinking of you. I have many fond memories of Uncle Brain at Christmas visits growing up. He was such a good sport being 'Santa'. He was such a bright light and you two together were always smiling and laughing. Thank you for sharing all of these pictures. Love always.

Charlotte Dowley - October 19, 2025 at 09:18 PM

JC

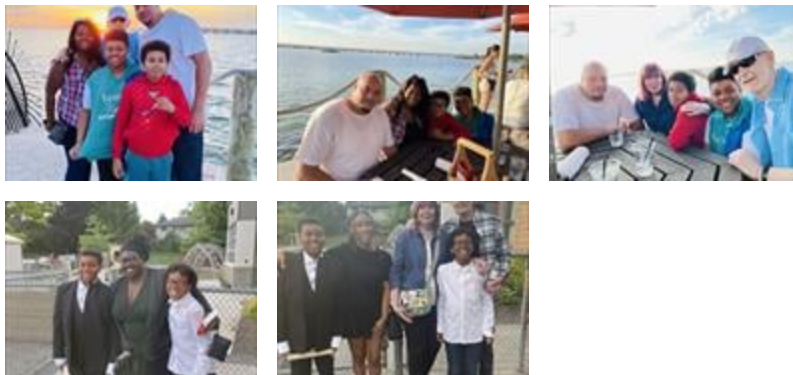
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Joan Cormier - October 15, 2025 at 06:26 PM

JC

“ 16 files added to the tribute wall



Joan Cormier - October 15, 2025 at 12:00 PM

JC

“ 9 files added to the tribute wall



Joan Cormier - October 14, 2025 at 07:07 PM

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“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



Joan Cormier - October 14, 2025 at 04:25 PM