



## Bruce Gordon Penner

December 30, 2020

It is with deep sorrow we announce the passing of our son, brother and uncle Bruce Gordon Penner.

Bruce was born May 22, 1964 in St Catharines, ON and left peacefully on December 30, 2020.

Bruce was the beloved son of Doris and Ernest (Paula). Adored and deeply loved by his sisters Brenda (David) Roest and Bonita Riehl. Admired and loved Uncle to Jacob, Marijke, Isaac (2012) and Levi. He will be dearly missed by many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Bruce was a 25 year employee at the Prince of Wales Hotel in NOTL. He was once the spokesperson for Ontario Special Olympics. This gave him many privileges including being in a commercial that aired on TSN, as well as being police Chief of the day for York Regional Police.

He was a champion award winning, swimmer, bowler, power lifter and curler with Special Olympics.

Bruce loved wrestling and had a passion for bagpipes and marching bands. He had an infectious smile and was loved by everyone who knew him.

Forever missed but always in our hearts. We will cherish his memory and his

impact on life forever.

Donations can be made in his name to Ontario Special Olympics.

<http://tiny.cc/memoryofbruce>

“Let me win but if I cannot win let me brave in the attempt.”

# Tribute Wall

AP

“ i had the privilage way back in the day getting to know Bruce , as i stayed over the weekend with him and his beautiful mom Doris while my parents were away . he was so kind. or the many times both doris and bruce came over for desserts at my parents place Dan and Joan Rinker.

April - December 07, 2021 at 10:00 PM

DR

“ We were recently saddened to learn of Bruce's passing. What a light he brought to everyone who knew him... what a beautiful person! His memory reminds us of how much we can do when our attitude is right. Wouldn't the world be a better place if more people looked at life as Bruce Penner did!  
Sincere condolences, Danny and Joan Rinker

Dan Rinker - February 04, 2021 at 08:57 PM

FG

“ Bruce was an inspiration to us at the Prince of Wales Hotel. We were so very lucky to work with him! The huge smile and the wit will never be forgotten. To quote one of Bruce's famous sayings “ I love that guy!”  
Fred Gamula

fred gamula - January 19, 2021 at 11:09 PM

BR

So very special to read these condolences and memories. Sincere gratitude to the staff at the Prince of Wales for their genuine love and acceptance of the most dedicated worker ever! Bruce loved his job and adored his fellow employees!

Bonita Riehl - January 21, 2021 at 12:06 AM

LP

“ Dear Doris and the Penner family...  
My condolences to you in the loss of your amazing son and brother.  
It was an absolute honor to have known Bruce and have him in Kurt  
and my lives.  
He entertained us and his fellow power lifters with all his jokes and  
riddles, stumping us many times!  
His smile, laughter and positive attitude was always a blessing to us  
all.  
Rest In Peace dear Bruce, say Hi to Kurt for me and one day I will  
meet you again.  
Love Linda

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**Linda Pleschke** - January 18, 2021 at 12:18 PM

BR

Linda, what a celebration in Heaven Kurt and Bruce are enjoying,  
hands down! Your love and devotion to the Special Olympians has  
touched the hearts of many. Kurt was a genuine coach and more so a  
friend! I mentioned him in a post on fb as the photo we have of him and  
Bruce is priceless. Bless you! Your continued thoughts and prayers are  
appreciated!

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**Bonita Riehl** - January 21, 2021 at 12:10 AM

JV

“ Bruce's infectious smile and laugh and his kind and gentle spirit  
were heart warming and linger in the hearts of many of us. We pray  
for Peace, Comfort and Strength for your families. Our condolences  
and much love....John and Nancy vandeKraats

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**John and Nancy vandeKraats** - January 16, 2021 at 09:48 AM

BR

Bruce was a genuine soul with a smile that has evidently pierced many  
hearts! Thank you for sharing your expressions of love!

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**Bonita Riehl** - January 21, 2021 at 12:12 AM

EC

“ So sorry to read about Bruce. I remember him through Vineland Missionary Church when he came with his mom. Bruce was always so happy go lucky. Deepest Sympathy Jim and Liz Church

Elizabeth Church - January 13, 2021 at 12:09 PM

BR

Thank you for your condolences. Bruce's life was full of love and he beamed with happiness.

Bonita Riehl - January 15, 2021 at 12:58 PM

A(

“ I had the pleasure of knowing bruce penner years at Vineland missionary church , and him and Doris coming over for dessert at my folks , but really got to spend time with him the week I stayed over night at their house while my folks were away , Prince of whales where he worked I always dreamt of staying over night and now my wish is being fulfillrd at my wedding in July 2021 , R.I.P. dear friend

april rinker baarda (pye) - January 12, 2021 at 04:54 PM

DM

“ Bruce was a patient at the optometry office I worked at for 20 years. As soon as he came in the door, he brought such positive energy with him. He loved to tell us about what he was up to, or show us his medals he had won. We always enjoyed visiting with him. My condolences to your family on your loss of this wonderful man. Debbie McLeod

Debbie McLeod - January 11, 2021 at 11:11 AM

BR

What an incredible difference maker he was! Thank you for your expressions of love and loss!

Bonita Riehl - January 11, 2021 at 03:53 PM

CF

“ Praying for you guys! Always loved spending time with Bruce! He was an avenue of the Lords blessings!

Caleb Fahnestock - January 11, 2021 at 07:05 AM

BR

What a testament! Bruce now rests in the arms of Jesus! Thanks for sharing in our journey!

Bonita Riehl - January 11, 2021 at 11:27 AM

AW

“ My wife and I feel fortunate to have known Bruce through the Special Olympics organization. We enjoyed helping coach Bruce in Power Lifting because no matter how he felt he would always give 110% and walk away with a smile. His enthusiasm at competitive meets became infectious to everyone around him, competitors, coaches and spectators alike. he loved the sport and the sport was better because of that.  
Art & Kerry Weaver

Art Weaver - January 10, 2021 at 05:35 PM

BR

We are so proud, as a family, of Bruce and all his accomplishments! He was a shining star! Thanks for sharing in his life!

Bonita Riehl - January 11, 2021 at 11:30 AM

JM

“ So very sorry to hear of Bruce's passing. He was a wonderful guy!  
Jim & Becky Mechelse

Jim & Becky Mechelse - January 10, 2021 at 03:46 PM

BR

*Thank you for your sharing with us! He was extraordinary indeed!*

**Bonita Riehl** - January 10, 2021 at 10:46 PM

TM

“ *To the Penner family but especially Doris and Bonita - What a great guy! He was so lucky to have a loving family to watch over him and love him. Whenever I saw Bruce he always had a smile and a friendly greeting. The world has lost a lovely person - wrestling obsession and all!*

*Terry Mactaggart*

**Terry Mactaggart** - January 10, 2021 at 08:01 AM

BR

*Thank you, kindly, Terry. What sweet sentiments! xo*

**Bonita Riehl** - January 10, 2021 at 12:40 PM



Lorraine  
Lopes

“ *Bruce's smile and laughter is something that we never forget! Our deepest condolences to you all.*

*Lorraine (Dobrenski) and Reinaldo Lopes*

**Lorraine Lopes** - January 10, 2021 at 12:38 AM

BR

*Thank you! He sure lived life large and touched many peoples lives!*

**Bonita Riehl** - January 10, 2021 at 10:47 PM

AN

“ Sorry for your loss.  
*I'm grateful to have met Bruce, and to have such great interactions with him.*  
*He was kind and gentle soul. Rest In Peace Bruce.*  
*Andrea PSW*

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**andrea** - January 09, 2021 at 08:50 AM

BR

*Thank you, Andrea! He loved you! Thanks for being so good to him (and Mom).*

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**Bonita Riehl** - January 10, 2021 at 10:48 PM

TE

“ *Doris Ernie and family, I'm so sorry for the loss of Bruce he was a wonderful kind person. I have many fond memories of talking to Bruce about wrestling and the royal family when we worked together at the Prince of Wales Hotel. I'll never forget the look on your face when a famous wrestler came in to the kitchen to meet you. What a kind soul this world has lost.*  
*Rest In Peace Bruce you were loved by so many.*

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**tracey evert** - January 08, 2021 at 04:40 PM

BR

*Thank you for sharing this tribute with our family. Bruce was precious to us and loved by all at the Prince!*

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**Bonita Riehl** - January 10, 2021 at 10:49 PM

JS

“ *Doris & Ernie, sorry to read of Bruce's passing. My memories of him at Westburne Alliance Church ushering and just being happy and friendly. May God give you peace and comfort at this time. Joan Johnson Stamler*

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**Joan Stamler** - January 08, 2021 at 12:36 PM

BR

*thanks Joan!! He was so happy with his infectious smile.*

**Brenda Roest** - January 08, 2021 at 02:12 PM



*So sorry to hear about your son and brother, Bruce. Loved looking at the pictures. He was such an inspiration. Thinking of you... Jo-Anne Smith*

**Jo-Anne Smith** - January 10, 2021 at 05:42 PM

VH

*“ Bruce was such a great worker keeping us in line. Show me the money was one of his favorite sayings. RIP Bruce Valerie Hawksbee*

**Valerie Hawksbee** - January 08, 2021 at 12:35 PM

BR

*thanks Valerie we appreciate your words and your memory of our sweet Bruce*

**Brenda Roest** - January 08, 2021 at 02:12 PM

JL

*“ Doris, Ernie and family. Very sorry to hear of Bruce's passing. He was a marvellous person. We have fond memories of travelling back and forth to ARC with Bruce and listening to his amazing knowledge of the Royal Family.*

*We are certain he will greatly missed by all who knew him and especially by his family.*

*Angela, Janice and Jim Letang*

**JANICE LETANG** - January 08, 2021 at 09:44 AM

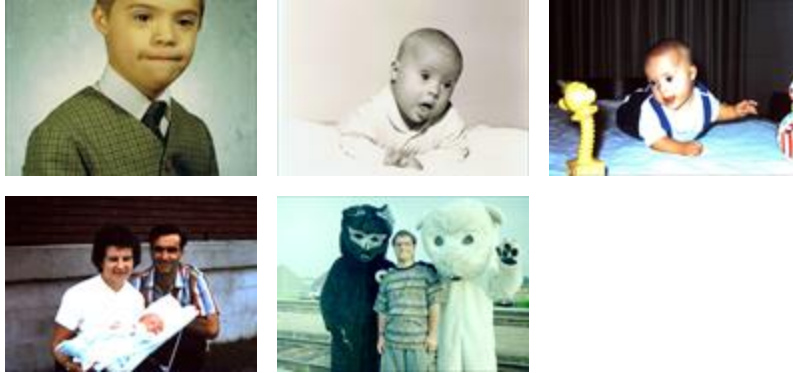
BR

*He was well versed in the Royal Family. Thanks for your kind words. He was a special man.*

**Brenda Roest** - January 08, 2021 at 02:10 PM

BR

“ 20 files added to the album *Memories Album*



**Brenda Roest** - January 07, 2021 at 11:36 AM

BR

“ 0 file added to the *tribute wall*

**Brenda Roest** - January 07, 2021 at 11:32 AM

BR

“ 1 file added to the album *TSN Commercial for Special Olympics*



**Brenda Roest** - January 07, 2021 at 11:31 AM

BR

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Brenda Roest** - January 07, 2021 at 11:30 AM

BR

“ 16 files added to the *tribute wall*



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**Brenda Roest** - January 07, 2021 at 11:27 AM