



Gary Norman Holmes

February 5, 2025

Gary Norman Holmes, March 31 1945 - February 5, 2025

With broken hearts, we announce the passing of Gary Norman Holmes at the age of 79, just shy of his 80th birthday.

Devoted husband to Deyanne, proud father of Christopher and Alan (Cindy), and adoring grandpa to Claire and Abby. He will be fondly remembered by sisters, Patricia Cooke, Cheryl Holmes, Dorteia Holmes, brother, Rob (Marian), and nieces Jennifer and Lisa. He was predeceased by his parents, Norma and Robert.

Gary had an insatiable appetite for knowledge. He never stopped seeking, questioning, and especially analyzing. He rarely required a calculator to compute problems and yet he was modest about his ability. As the former owner of a drywall company, he was not afraid to tackle challenging construction projects around the house, however, as a perfectionist, this sometimes led to needless frustration.

He was immensely proud of his two sons and took great delight in discussing ongoing projects with them. Prior to their birth, Gary had expressed the desire that his future grandchildren be boys, but, when his granddaughters were born and he got to know them, they just melted his heart!

Somehow, 80 years on this earth doesn't seem long enough.

An unfortunate, unexpected diagnosis of cancer robbed Gary of being able to spend more time with

those of us who are left behind to mourn his passing. Cremation has taken place and a Celebration of life will take place at some future date.

Tribute Wall

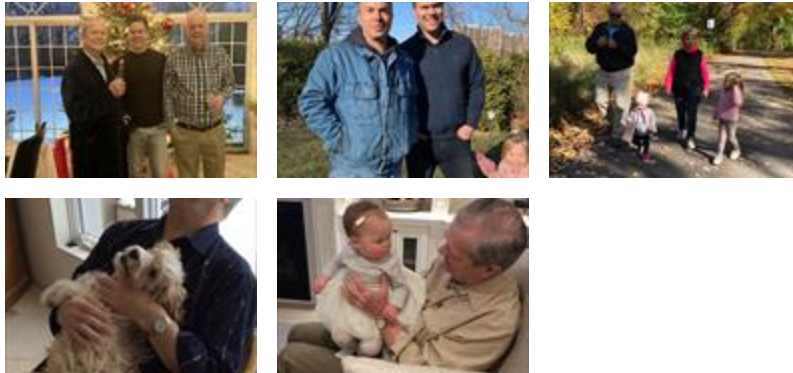
DH

“ It's been 4 months since Gary left us and every special occasion brings back memories. Tomorrow is Father's Day (2025) and as many of the posted photos will show, Gary's happiest moments were interacting with his children and eventually his grandchildren. He enjoyed acting silly, talking silly and concocting ridiculous stories to make them laugh. Our two boys Christopher and Alan are all grown up now and Alan has children of his own, Claire and Abby. The love and joy these two little girls have brought us is immeasurable. A short time ago, 8 year old Claire wrote a note to Gary and it read: "I want to hug you Grandpa but you're not here. I wish you weren't dead." A child's simple wish that we can all share but we can cherish the memory.
Missing you,
Dede

Deyanne HOLMES - June 14, 2025 at 09:36 PM

DH

“ 26 files added to the album Memories of Gary



Deyanne HOLMES - June 14, 2025 at 09:12 PM

CH

“ Despite Gary being very ill, he insisted on having the family over for Christmas. Gary loved Christmas! Growing up, it was Gary that went out every year and brought home the biggest tree he could find. He was thoughtful and generous, he wanted his siblings to have the most fun and enjoy every moment. This year, it was Alan that went out and brought home the most spectacular Christmas tree to surprise Gary when he returned home from the hospital. When Gary met the love of his life, Deyanne, they took us on many day trips and rented a cottage every year at either Lake Couchiching or Simcoe. They were such fun times, I will always cherish those memories.

After a successful career and retiring, Gary spent his time doing what he loved - enjoying the grandchildren, learning, starting and completing projects around the home. He made himself available to provide invaluable advice and assistance to the women in the family with their never ending home issues too!

You were a good brother Gary, rest in peace.

We will miss you forever.

Love, Cheryl



Cheryl Holmes - March 02, 2025 at 06:44 PM

PC

“ *My brother Gary was smart and witty, with a phenomenal memory. He wanted desperately to live - he felt there was so much more to learn about the world - he had a keen interest in politics, law, medicine, history - curious to know what would happen with Trump. Interested in the world until the end. He was beyond proud of Chris and Alan, and it was a pure delight to watch him interact with his granddaughters Claire and Abby - teasing and making them laugh. He was deeply grateful for the love and support of his beautiful Deyanne who was at his side every step of this last awful journey. Gary was an amazing brother to me - we had so much fun as kids - working together at Bill's Fish and Chips for four years, along with his best friend Kenny Pitman. We had fish and chips and orange pop for dinner every night after work. As well, Gary always had a sense of responsibility towards his parents and siblings from a young age.*

Thank you for your caring presence, Gary. Rest in peace, dear brother.

With love, Patsy

Patricia Cooke - February 16, 2025 at 08:05 PM