



Mr. Janis John Krievins

May 18, 2016

JĀNIS JOHN KRIEVIŅŠ

There is a wondrous new voice in the heavenly choir – Jānis (aka Janka, Johnny-Boy, Yoda, Papa Smurf) realized his excellent chops were needed up there, rather than continuing with his heroic 16-year battle against Alzheimer's down here.

It was a beautiful Spring morning this May 18 when he went into the light from Kristus Dārzs Latvian Home, where he has lived for the last 6 years. After 5 difficult days in hospital, Jānis came home there to the gentle concerned care and the comfort of his familiar surroundings before starting on his new journey the next morning.

Smiltene, Latvia 1924 was where life started for Jānis. He followed a dream named Trudi to Canada in 1951, and convinced that dream to marry him in 1952. Almost 64 wedded years, and even with the Alzheimer's he never forgot he had won the Lotto by winning her. Daughters Tami & Inky arrived, and then in 1965 Jānis started at Kodak Canada, staying there until his retirement, always appreciating the good life it allowed him to make for his family.

Love of family was everything to Jānis, and that extended to all his relatives still in Latvia, all the dear Latvian DP friends making new lives in Canada that became ersatz family, the brotherhood of his Kodak colleagues, and the kind souls at Kristus Dārzs that ensured his well-being.

Jānis was always about joy and happiness. Even after Alzheimer's chipped

away his ability to smile, speak and walk, he was still full of kisses to share and ready to belt out a melody in his heartfelt “tra-la-la-la/ra-ta-ta-tat” interpretation.

In memory of Jānis, tribute donations to the Kristus Dārzs Latvian Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

Donations can be made on-line at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/kristus-darzs-latvian-foundation>, or by mail to:

Kristus Dārzs Latvian Home

11290 Pine Valley Drive

Woodbridge, ON L4L 1A6

Cremation has taken place, with a private interment to follow at a later date.

Jānis’ positive energy remains as a lasting legacy to us all through wonderful memories. Let’s keep a song in our hearts for him.

Tribute Wall

NW

“ My memories of Tamara and Inky's Dad are of his equable and positive temperament, and I'm glad the Latvian home worked so well in difficult circumstances. And such a long and varied life in historic times, so such a loss of the knowledge of shared experiences to the one who shared most of them from there to here. Happy memories of the Christmas tree with real candles burning, I've never thought electric lights are the real thing since then. Nick Whistler



Nick Whistler - May 28, 2016 at 01:49 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mr. Janis John Krievins.



May 24, 2016 at 02:49 PM

MP

“ I will always treasure my memories of Janis during the summer of '99... his sense of humour and knowledge of Scotland and Scots' history always outdid mine, as did his keen sense of a Scot needing a, or yet another, "refreshment". I did manage to just outdo him on height however

To a somewhat naive young man, Janis had the rare and undervalued skill to analyse, asses and expertly advise the best play to make in any situation, especially when family do what families do. Usually just with a beer, a wink, and a cheeky smile, knowing that is all that's needed.

*Rest in peace Janis...
My thoughts are with you all during this difficult time.*

Michael



Michael Peaston - May 24, 2016 at 02:49 PM

NW

A very thoughtful tribute Michael, enjoyed

Nick Whistler - May 28, 2016 at 01:50 PM

PL

“ Loving thoughts expressed from a loving family. I'm sure he will be deeply missed. My thoughts are with the entire family during this time.

What we have once enjoyed we can never lose...All that we love deeply becomes a part of us.

Helen Keller

Sincerely, Pauline

Pauline Lee - May 22, 2016 at 06:32 PM

SK

“ Many many years of memories of time spent with the Krievins over the past 60 years that will always stay strong in our minds & our hearts.

Our condolences to the family.

The Skillins in Aurora

Skillins - May 21, 2016 at 02:45 PM

AL

“ What beautiful words! Sadly, I never got to meet Jānis but, I have heard many lovely stories about him. I am so deeply sorry for your loss. You are all in my thoughts during this difficult time.

Alisa - May 21, 2016 at 08:02 AM

KC

“ To me he was ' tamara's dad'. Tamara is my oldest friend and we met because our dads both worked at Kodak and so did w for a couple of fun summers. I remember how proud he was of the company he worked for, how he was always ready for fun and a good laugh - and to him I was always 'Maureen o'Hara'.

karen clarke-whistler - May 20, 2016 at 05:59 PM