



Jeffrey Alan Otto

August 4, 2024

Jeffrey Alan Otto July 13, 1963-Aug 4, 2024

Suddenly as a result of a heart attack while participating in the PWA Friends for Life bike ride from Toronto to Montreal, a 600 km fundraising ride he looked forward to every year.

Jeff was predeceased by his mother Patricia Otto & his partner Ron Birdsall. Devasted by his loss are his father Don, sister Susan Currie (Scott), nephews Brett & Bradley, great nephew Damian, and his partner in life Dean Miller. He also leaves behind aunts, uncles, cousins, his most cherished chosen family of friends, as well as his celebrity status pup Maisie.

Jeffrey was born in Edmonton Alberta, moving to Ontario as a toddler. He did his schooling in Clarkson, followed by taking Radio & Television Broadcasting at Ryerson, as well as cabinet making. His passion was people. First working in the hospitality industry, then dabbling in acting before finding his calling with Toronto Fire Services. Jeff recently retired from his career as a firefighter with Toronto Fire Station 322 having what he proclaimed was “the best job ever!” He was the pulse of the community he lived in called The Pocket, receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award for his endless volunteering within this community. He was also affectionately dubbed “the Mayor of The Pocket”. Among Jeff’s joys were wine, brunch, vintage tv’s, family, forging friendships, enhancing and involvement in the neighbourhood, the theatre, movies,

travelling, his dogs, and Amazon Prime. He and Dean just built a lovely welcoming home together, already the scene of many great gatherings. Jeff will forever be remembered as a kind, giving soul with an infectious smile. Our love and thanks to all of our family and friends for the outpouring of support this last week, as well as our eternal gratitude to all those involved in the attempts to save his life.

A celebration of Jeff's life is planned for Sunday August 25, 2024 at Country Heritage Park, in the Gambrel Barn; 8560 Tremaine Rd, Milton L9T 2X3 from 1pm-4pm with the reading of the eulogy at 1:30 pm sharp. For parking, guests should use the north entrance and then walk through the red admission building. For those who have mobility issues, you can drop them off at the barn doors using the south entrance and pick them up at the end of the event.

Donations in Jeff's memory can be made to his bike rally fundraising efforts online at www.tinyurl.com/jeffsride2024

Tribute Wall

MG

“ Dean, I'm so sorry you have lost Jeff. It has been great to see the job you two did with Jim's beat-up old house. And it was very generous of you to allow us to put some of his ashes in your new garden.
I hope you have lots of friends to help you. If you want to reach out later I'm at mgibbclark@gmail.com

Margot Gibb-Clark - August 30, 2024 at 08:34 PM

JT

“ Devastated to hear about Jeff, met him and Dean 2018 in Italy 🇮🇹. We had such a laugh... fabulous man, great company, heart of a lion and funny as f^k. So sorry for your loss Dean. Rest well Jeff, you legend xx

Jill T - August 25, 2024 at 06:05 AM

SC

“ I was very sad to hear about Jeff. He, and his family, is/are old family friends. I curled with Jeff and his sister Susan back in Junior curling days at Dixie Curling Club. My parents met Don and Pat Otto in Alberta years before that, and then became part of an active group of curlers at Dixie CC. There are many good memories of get togethers involving bonspiels and camping, which likely included a few weekends at North Toronto KOA. On behalf of the Clack family, I send our deepest condolences to Don, Susan and Scott, and their family. In re-connecting with the Ottos around 15 years ago, I learned how great a person Jeff was in his adult life. He will be missed by many.

Scott Clack - August 17, 2024 at 01:10 PM

AS

“ I can't say enough wonderful words about Jeff , we worked together in the 80's and 90's at PJ Mellons. He Always had a kind heart and spirit. When I suffered a stroke this past November Jeff reached out on Instagram with words of inspiration and encouragement . I just found out today about Jeff am truly in shock
Rest in peace my friend you truly were one of the good guys ❤️

Alan Scanlin - August 16, 2024 at 08:01 PM

BJ

“ On behalf of the Aldham family, we would like to extend our condolences to his partner, family and friends. My brother Greg Aldham (d. 2009) worked with Jeff at PJ Mellons and subsequently they purchased and renovated 81 Ravina together, to flip the home. Jeff decided to stay in the home instead, which I understand he was at for close to 30 years. Thoughts and prayers, Brie Jarrett & Marybelle and Dwight (d.2022) Aldham

Brie Jarrett - August 15, 2024 at 12:54 PM

DR

I was so shocked and saddened to hear about Jeff. I spoke to him a few days before he left on the bike rally and it was such a shock. I know most of us were stunned when we heard. Such a lovely man and so happy to have had him my life. Our love goes out to everyone, especially Dean, family and close friends. I wish we could be there for the service but unfortunately with travel will be unable to make it. We send our love from Vancouver.

Douglas Reynolds - August 17, 2024 at 08:07 PM

JR

When we moved to The Pocket over two and a half years ago, Jeff and Dean were the unofficial welcome wagon whobdropped by with gifts and welcomed us to the area. We knew then we had found a great place to live. Watching over the next couple years how Jeff really was like the Mayor of our community was truly incredible. The civic pride and enthusiasm and commitment he had to making this area great is a true testament to what being a great neighbor is all about. We wish we could have known him for longer. Taken far too soon. Condolences to Dean and the rest of his family and loved ones.

Joe Recupero - August 18, 2024 at 08:08 AM

MU

“ I worked with Jeff in the early 90’s at PJ Mellon’s on Church St., we didn’t stay in touch after those years but I would run into him constantly throughout the years. Jeff was a kind soul and and always had a smile on his face and I always enjoyed catching up whenever we randomly ran into each other. My condolences to his family, partner and friends. He was one of the good guys. Xo

Murray - August 15, 2024 at 08:36 AM

KF

“ I have a lot of memories to share.. this may not be the most appropriate right now but it is weirdly relatable. Jeff came to Bermuda to hang with Suzi and I for a few days. We were out on our motorbikes touring around when we realised we were going the wrong way. Suzi and I made a u turn and Jeff followed suit but didn't see a guy speeding towards us from up the street. He made his turn just as the guy absolutely FLEW by him and I saw an alternative reality Jeff get completely wiped out in my mind according to all laws of physics. I was made to believe Jeff was a cat with nine lives or something to that effect. I wish he had one more 'life' left. This shouldn't have been his last rodeo. No way.

Kojo Ferguson - August 14, 2024 at 05:52 PM