



Joseph Black

October 20, 2020

Joseph (PAPA JO) Black

Passed away peacefully at Sunnybrook Veterans Centre, Toronto, on October 20, 2020, at 94 years of age. Loving and devoted father of Martin (Mary) and Susan (Jose). Much loved grandfather of Genny (Nick), Teena, and Benjamin. Proud great-grandfather of Isobel. Joe was predeceased by Bea in 2013. His lifelong love of photography led him to a very successful commercial photography business by starting Graphic Artists in 1946. Joe brought new ideas to his work. He worked with famous visitors to Toronto, including The Beatles, Queen Elizabeth II, Pierre Trudeau, Wayne Gretzky and so many others. His work can be seen in the Hockey Hall of Fame. He was a fixture at Maple Leaf Gardens every Saturday and Wednesday night as their official photographer.

Joe was well known in the Jewish community for his generosity and always helping others regardless of their backgrounds. He was Mr. Fix-it to many and was always tinkering with something that wasn't working. He proudly served his country (RCAF) during WWII. He loved sports - tennis, golf, boating, flying and swimming. He took great pride in sharing his family's accomplishments. He will be missed by those who knew him and will be remembered with love and humour by those closest to him.

No funeral will take place. Donations may be made to the Jewish organization of your choice or Sunnybrook Veterans Centre.

Tribute Wall

JP

“ I was very sorry to read about Joe. What a talent. I met him in 1968 when he photographed me as Miss Argonaut for the Grey Cup Festival being held in Toronto. I was nervous as it was my first major photo shoot but he was such a gentleman and completely put me at ease. I also believe Joe was the one who took the hit from the football kicked by then Prime Minister Trudeau at the start of the Grey Cup Game! An odd moment of glory! I saw Joe briefly over the years during my broadcast career. He was always smiling, a pleasure to see and he always had a story of some of his latest work and the celebrities he had met. He took such pride in everything he did. My sincerest condolences to Joe's family.

Jacque Perrin - November 01, 2020 at 05:55 PM

DP

“ My sincere condolences to the extended family of Joseph Black. I knew Joe through my many years with the Toronto Argonauts (1976-81) and Canadian Football League (1981-86) and many years following with my involvement in hockey. He and his associate Sid at Graphic Artists were a dynamic duo. Working days, nights and weekends shooting and processing game films and stills was their passion. Joe took such a pride in his work and never complained no matter how tiresome or terrible the climatic conditions--heat, rain, cold and snow to get the job done. Joe's friendly demeanor was accompanied by a smile. I have cherished the photo Joe took of the late Bob Hope with myself and Anthony Davis, the former college star running back who played with the Argos. Hope was a big college football fan and followed AD during his university career in California. The famous actor and comedian had approached me to have AD come on stage when he played the Grandstand Show at the Canadian National Exhibition. God bless you Joe.

Doug Philpott - October 27, 2020 at 10:28 PM

GA

“ Dear Marty, Susan and families
My sincere condolences on Joe's recent passing. He was a wonderful, generous friend, a great tennis partner and a fixer of all things broken. He had entertaining stories to tell, relating to his interesting, colourful life. He will be very much missed.
Gail Axmith

Gail Axmith - October 27, 2020 at 09:03 PM

CS

“ Our Condolences to the family of Joe (PAPA JOE) Black. A wonderful friend over many, many years.
He will be missed.
Celia and Rollick Sweetman.



Celia and Rollick Sweetman - October 26, 2020 at 05:34 PM

JR

“ Dear Marty, Susan and Families:

On behalf of the entire Rudolph Family, please accept our sincere condolences on the passing of "Uncle Joe". My parents (Mac and Stella) were very fortunate to have a close and special relationship with your parents! Uncle Joe and Aunt Bea were always warm and loving to me and my siblings. We spent many a Sunday afternoon at your parents' pool on Bayview Avenue. Uncle Joe took various portraits of our family and he took all the photos at my Bar Mitzvah. After my dad passed away, my mom and your dad remained close friends and played tennis together often. Even though we knew at some point that we weren't really related by blood, your parents always remained "Uncle Joe and Aunt Bea". Your dad's passing marks the end of an era. Our thoughts and memories of your dad (and mom) will always be warm and loving. May Uncle Joe's memory be a blessing for you.

Jay Rudolph

Jay Rudolph - October 26, 2020 at 04:49 PM

KG

“ *Dear Marty, Susan and Family,*

We have many memories of your late father going back to when I was a child attending movies in your grandmother's basement put on by your late father. I also had the honour of being a ring bearer at your parents wedding. Through the years we had happy occasions to celebrate together. The lunches with Bea at her retirement home, the years attending lectures at Betel on Monday mornings, the frequent telephone calls between us. The beautiful pictures he took at our wedding. All these are very fond memories of not only a cousin but a cherished friend.

We will miss him very much. May his memory be a blessing to all of us.

Fondly,

Myrna and Karl Goodman

Karl Goodman - October 25, 2020 at 10:09 AM