



## Mr. Randy Edward Heasman

May 12, 2015

Feb. 9, 1957 – May 12, 2015

Randy Heasman died last Tuesday morning at Toronto Grace Hospital with his wife Asha by his side, after a week surrounded by family and friends. He slipped away gradually at Grace, the final step in a three-year long struggle with non-Hodgkin lymphoma. He was 58.

We will so miss Randy. His happy, disarming smile. His openness to everyone he met. His relentless energy. His love of fun and games. The way he mentored and inspired by example. His generous spirit. His laughter. His strength in the face of adversity.

Nikki calls her dad “passionate” and “caring”; Ryan calls him “my friend”; Rahel says, “You pushed me and Ryan to be way better people.” To Asha he was simply, “the love of my life, instantly, when I first set eyes upon him.”

Randy wasn’t complicated. What you saw – a charismatic, magnetic guy with a twinkle in his bright blue eyes and Tom Cruise good looks – was what you got. He didn’t bear secrets, hold grudges or look down on anybody.

Randy came from honest, working class roots in Peterborough, Ontario. The scoliosis that he developed at 10 years of age made Randy feel like an “outsider,” in his words. He was bullied and wondered if he’d have a normal life and family.

As a result, he dedicated his life and work to the service of others. He spent 30 years working for St. Stephen’s Community House in Toronto. Even in his recreational activities like hockey, he advocated for affordability and inclusivity.

Randy is survived by Asha, his wife of 17 years, and three beautiful children: Nikkola ("Nikki" and her partner Greg), Ryan, and Rahel. He was pre-deceased by his parents Keith Edward Heasman and Lois (née Perritt) Heasman, and leaves brothers Brian (wife, Deirdre), Wayne (husband, Pascal), and five nieces and nephews: Paul, Micheline, Mary, Monique and Sean.

We thank Princess Margaret Hospital and especially oncologist Dr. Michael Crump, who gave us extra time with Randy. We also thank all those who offered help and support during Randy's treatment.

Randy was cremated on May 14. We'll celebrate his life on Saturday, May 23, at 4 pm. All are welcome to attend the service at Cecil Community Centre, 58 Cecil Street, Toronto. We'll tell stories, play music and share memories together.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, please contribute in Randy's name to any of these charitable organizations:

- \* St. Stephen's Community House ([www.sscto.ca](http://www.sscto.ca))
- \* Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation ([www.thepmcf.ca](http://www.thepmcf.ca))
- \* Trent University ([www.trentu.ca](http://www.trentu.ca) )

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAY 23. 4:00 PM (ET)

Cecil Community Centre  
58 Cecil Street  
Toronto, ON (CA)

# Tribute Wall

NM

“ Dear Asha,

*I am so sorry to hear of Randy's passing. I am thinking of you, Ryan, Rahel, and Nikki. I feel so lucky to have been able to meet and know Randy, even if on only a few occasions. I remember last bumping into him at Lawrence Heights C.H.C., when our paths last crossed. He was always warm and welcoming. We send you our love.*

*With warm regards and condolences,*

*Nina and Mark*

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**Nina Malayil** - July 07, 2015 at 10:01 AM

QK

“ Dear Asha,

*My deepest sympathies and condolences to you and your family. You and I worked together at Skills for Change when you were pregnant with your first child. I remember the excitement and anticipation you both shared. I know how loved he was by you and everyone who ever met him. I was privileged to meet him several times afterwards, and he always remembered who I was; the one who worked with you, lol. I was moved by his passion in his work and his soft spoken style. He will truly be missed.*

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**Qaiser Khan** - June 04, 2015 at 11:58 AM

MO

“ Dear Asha,  
I'm so sorry to hear that we lost Randy so soon. I have had the privilege of meeting him several times and each time I ended up saying to someone " he is a great guy". The last time I met him was at the wedding of my daughter in Montreal. Asha, my deepest condolences to you and the three adorable children. We all will miss him!

Susy Aunty (Ottawa)

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**Mrs Oommen** - May 24, 2015 at 07:44 PM

HE

“ Dear Asha, Nikki, Ryan and Rahel. Please accept our condolences on Randy's passing. We have many fond memories of your family during week 6 at Red Pine. Randy was always smiling, positive, making others laugh, a great listener, and always supportive of his family and friends. We will remember him always.

Heather, Dave, Caitlind and Lindsay

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**Heather** - May 23, 2015 at 02:20 PM

JD

“ Our deepest sympathies on your loss. I met Randy at the rink and I guess that is how many of us will remember him. We coached the kids at McCormick Arena and those are very good memories for all of us. Randy had a kind a generous spirit, he will be missed but not forgotten.

John Dondertman

Paola Giavedoni, Lucas and Marlowe

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**John Dondertman** - May 22, 2015 at 06:43 PM

RG

“ My deepest condolences to Randy's family and all who were close to him.

*I worked with Randy as colleagues in the management team at St Stephen's for a number of years. He was a really lovely man, kind, generous, warm and wonderful. It was always a great pleasure to work with you, Randy, and you will be missed.*

*Robin Griller*

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**Robin Griller** - May 19, 2015 at 01:03 PM

EK

“ My deepest condolences to Randy's family.

*I met Randy at the University of Toronto during a summer course. This was at a time that I really needed a friend like him. He invited me to join in with his weekend softball group. He told me you don't have to call people for the games; they just show up from all directions. During the fall and winter, Randy and I were part of a floor hockey group that played weekly at the Dovercourt Boys and Girls Club.*

*Randy was not only a great player in these sports, he was one of the friendliest people I ever met. I have fond memories of him and the games we played in his downtown neighbourhood.*

*Elliott Kleiman*

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**Elliott Kleiman** - May 19, 2015 at 07:20 AM

CH

“ *My dear Asha, I am so sorry for your loss :( I know how much Randy met to you and your children. I have watch you at camp and witness the love, complicity, respect, friendship you shared among each others. Randy will be miss. My toughs and prayers are with you and your family,  
sincerely  
Chantal and family from week 6*

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**chantal** - May 17, 2015 at 07:38 AM

TF

“ *From all of us at The Career Foundation*

*As soon as we heard of Randy's passing, staff began telling stories of when they met Randy and the positive interactions they had with him. Randy was someone that made you feel welcomed and listened to. His compassionate nature shone through in everything he did. Randy was a leader and a true advocate for the clients we work with.*

*We send our heartfelt condolences to his family at this difficult time. Know that we are thinking about you and will always remember Randy for the wonderful human being he was.*

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**The Career Foundation** - May 15, 2015 at 12:37 PM

EZ

“ *Please accept my deepest condolences in Randy's passing. As a new House staff, I didn't get the chance to know Randy, but I know everyone deeply respected and cared for him, and I hope the strength of Randy's work colleagues brings comfort to you.  
Elis Ziegler*

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**Elis Ziegler** - May 15, 2015 at 12:28 PM

VT

*Through Federal and then Provincial partner agencies I had the opportunity to work with Randy for several years. I always admired him for his positive, collaborative, and totally committed approach, and maybe even more for his friendly, often humorous manner. His loss leaves a huge hole in the helping community. Rest in peace, Randy.*  
*Veronica Taylor*

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**Veronica Taylor** - May 15, 2015 at 04:21 PM

GB

*I had the pleasure of knowing Randy over the past 30 years in the employment services work we were both engaged in. He was always positive, collaborative and creative in dealing with the ups and downs of a field of work that faced many challenges, as government funding programs came and went. I always looked forward to running into Randy at meetings and was consistently greeted with that big warm smile of his. You will be greatly missed and always remembered!*  
*Peace - Geraldine Babcock*

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**Geraldine Babcock** - May 16, 2015 at 05:36 PM

MC

*Losing someone we love is not easy. Knowing Randy, we realize that we were blessed to have been able to be part of his life through the love of hockey, before he went to rest in eternal salvation.*  
*Our condolences-Management and Staff Bill Bolton Arena*

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**Mario Carpino** - May 17, 2015 at 09:03 PM

MR

*Dear Asha, Rahel, Ryan and Nikki my sincerest condolences. May the memories of times you shared together bring you comfort and joy.*  
*Michele Raposo*

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**Michele Raposo** - May 19, 2015 at 03:55 PM

EH

*My deepest condolences to the entire Heasman family. What a kind, wonderful gentleman----I have many warm memories from decades ago in Peterborough. I was truly saddened to read the obituary, but I wasn't surprised to read of the difference he has made in the lives of so many others.*

*Brian, please feel free to contact me at [edholton@hotmail.com](mailto:edholton@hotmail.com) at your convenience.*

*-Edward Holton*

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**Ed Holton** - May 20, 2015 at 09:54 PM

AF

*Our family get-togethers, swim lessons and the Y, late night video hand-offs, chance encounters in the neighbourhood, career advice, and general sunny disposition - all of these will be missed. Asha, Ryan, Rahel and Nikki, we feel your loss and offer our sincere sympathy.*

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**Anne Fleming** - May 26, 2015 at 03:20 PM