

We Gather to Celebrate the Life of
Gerald Leonard McKenzie

Saturday, April 10, 2021 1:00 pm
Christ Church Anglican, The Pas, Manitoba
Presider: Rev. Janice Maloney-Brooks

Order of Service

Gathering Music: Hard Working Man (*Brooks & Dunn*)

Pg. 571 Opening Sentences

Hymn: Here I am Lord

Greeting: Pg. 576

Pg. 577 The Collect

Memories of the Heart (*Nicole, Gerald and Chantal*)

Proclamation of the Word:

Isaiah 25: 6-9 by *Mackenzie Thomas (sister)*

Revelation 21: 1-7 by *Brandy-Lynn Woodcock (niece)*

Hymn: Will the Circle Be Unbroken (*Willie Nelson*)

Matthew 5: 1-12a by *Charla McKenzie (great niece)*

Homily: by *Rev. Jann Brooks*

Pg. 592 Apostles Creed

Pg. 593 Prayers of the People by *Rev. Maureen Macieszwa*

Commendation

pg. 595 Commendation Prayer

Benediction

Recessional: My Way (*Elvis Presley*)

INTERMENT

Lakeside Cemetery, The Pas, Manitoba



Hemauer Funeral Home, The Pas, Manitoba

www.hemauerfuneralhome.com

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In Loving Memory of
Gerald Leonard McKenzie
May 14, 1951—March 31, 2021





It is with broken hearts that we announce the passing of our dad, Gerald Leonard McKenzie, affectionately known as "Big Mac", at the age of 69 years, at St. Boniface Hospital, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on Wednesday, March 31, 2021.

Dad was the first-born child of Leonard McKenzie and Elizabeth Hoskins (nee Young), on Monday, May 14th, 1951, in The Pas, Manitoba. During some of his childhood and his teen years, Dad recalled with great affection, being cared for and spoiled by, his grandmother, Virginia, who he referred to as "Ma". Gerald and Yvonne were married in 1970, and together they raised three beautiful children. Dad was proud of this accomplishment and how well we all did. Nicole was born first in 1973, followed by Gerald Frederick in 1974, and then Chantal, in 1982.

Dad became employed by Canadian Kraft Papers, then known as Manfor in the early seventies, where he started his career at the sawmill. He later obtained his certification as an Industrial Mechanic on May 28th, 1981, and then transferred to the paper mill on May 14th, 1990. He officially and happily retired on November 11, 2006, after over 30 years of service. He was a smart man and was always up to fixing anything that we sent his way, or that needed attention. There was nothing he could not fix for us. He was also a very strong man, both mentally and physically, overcoming multiple serious health obstacles that he confronted over many years of his life. As a result, he often jokingly reminded us that his middle initial, "L", stood for "lucky".

Much of Dad's life was filled with memorable times of fishing, hunting, and camping. He made many fishing memories with his late father, whom he missed deeply, his brothers, cousins, children, grandchildren, and friends. We all have many happy memories of times spent on the many different lakes with him, learning about his "secret weapons", and how he absolutely loved to do the "Walleye Walk". In his younger years, Dad also spoke fondly of his camping trips with his fishing buddies and the good times and joking that were had. What also brought Dad enjoyment was spending time at the VLTs or at the casino. This was where he loved to go for a few "quick" spins.

In his later years, Dad transitioned to his most prized role as "Papa". First with his grandson, Madden, in 2011, and later, his granddaughter, Peyton, in 2013. Dad loved his grandchildren dearly and adored them beyond words. He would often enjoy taking them

for a bite to eat, and to the candy store where there were no limits on how much they could buy. He loved spoiling them and attending every single birthday party they had, as well as attending all get-togethers where the family would gather and celebrate occasions together.

Dad had the "gift of gab" and the innate ability to make people laugh. His crazy sense of humor was enjoyed by all who knew him. Some of our best laughs were shared with our Dad, Papa, brother, cousin, fishing partner, friend, and co-worker.

Dad will be lovingly remembered by his children: Nicole (Cyril), Gerald (Cynthia), and Chantal. Dad also leaves behind his grandchildren: Madden and Peyton; siblings: Margaret (Roger), Norman (Carolyn), Larry, Mackenzie, Desirae, Joe, and John (Minky); numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Dad was predeceased by his father Leonard; mother Elizabeth; grandmother "Ma" (Virginia Poirier); grandfather Norman McKenzie; Grandfather Joe; Aunt Dora (Arnold); Ruby (Dale); and numerous other aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Throughout our childhood and in our later years, Dad's presence always made us feel loved, safe, and secure. There was never any fear with him as the driver of the family car, or the boat. D.O.D. taught us many life lessons such as how to be brave, how to be strong, how to stand up for ourselves, but most important, how to fish. We are forever grateful that you were chosen to be our Dad and "Papa". You did an amazing job with us Dad, and you will be forever lovingly remembered by not only us, but by all your extended family and friends. Until we meet again, rest well Dad. We will miss you and love you forever. xox

