

Reverend Jackie (John Charles) MacDonald
1930-2015

Jackie (John Charles) MacDonald, 84, our loving husband, father, and grandfather, lost his fight on Wednesday, 01 July 2015, in the CCU department at the Infirmary Hospital at the QE II, Halifax, NS. Born in Glace Bay on 19 October 1930, he was the son of the late John Archie and Rose (Rennie) MacDonald. He was proudly brought up in Bridgeport with his nine brothers and sisters. In his younger years he worked for the Dominion Coal Company as a weighman. On New Year's Eve in 1963, he met the love of his life, Sheila MacDonald. They were married on 16 July 1966. Jackie decided the ministry was his calling. He attended St. FX Junior College and in 1967 he attended Pine Hill Divinity College. In 1970, he was ordained into the United of Church of Canada in Sackville, NB. Jackie's first charge was in St. Ann's Bay where he met many wonderful people. In 1974, he was called to the Westmount-St. Columba charge where he spent 21 incredible years. In 1977, he was instrumental in building of the superstructure of the Westmount United Church above the existing basement. In appreciation the congregation gave he and Sheila a trip to the Holy Land. In 1982 he initiated the raising of the St. Columba church and built a hall beneath it. One of his proudest moments was when the St. Columba congregation named the hall, "The Rev. Jackie MacDonald Hall" in his honour. Jackie was a community-minded man. He was a volunteer for Meals on Wheels, made over 100 donations to the Canadian Blood Donor Clinic, as well as the Westmount Fire Department. Daddy loved country music, crosswords and jigsaw puzzles, the Toronto Blue Jays and Maple Leafs. He was a fierce and loyal father and friend. Our hearts are broken. He is survived by his loving wife Sheila; his son Darrell (Kathy) and their children Alexander (Courtney), Emma Rose (Niles) Peterson, and Calum; his daughters Mora and her children Fiona and Alasdair Brett; Heather (Joe) Garabb and their children Tyler Richards and Carter MacKenzie. He was eagerly looking forward to the birth of his first two great-grandchildren who are due in August. He also survived by his two sisters Rose Baretta and Muriel Campbell, both of Bridgeport; his brother-in-law Rev. Ian K. (Virginia) and sisters-in-law Gwen MacDonald and Paulette MacDonald. He was a proud uncle to his many nieces and nephews whom he loved dearly and they loved right back. In addition to his parents he was predeceased by his brothers, Hugh Alexander and Billy; his sisters Mabel Tellum, Helen MacNeil, Ruth Farrell, Elaine Arseneau and Lydia Boutilier.

The celebration of life was held at Westmount United Church, Westmount, NS, on 05 July 2015.