



The Reverend Ralph Eldon Johnston

Rev. Ralph Johnston, devoted husband to Henrietta (MacIntosh) Johnston for 63 years died Sunday, April 16, 2023, at the age of 88. Born August 29, 1934, in Sydney, he was a son of the late Neil Eldon and Elsie Mae (Beck) Johnston. Ralph is survived by his wife, Henrietta (MacIntosh); children, Paul (Shawna), Kingston, ON, Kenneth (Anita), Kelowna, BC, Elsa (Keith) Donovan, London, ON and Peter (Nicole), Summerside, PE; grandchildren, Alec, Stuart, Clare, Morgan, Mackenna, Maia, Megan, Mattea, Malachi-Luke, Matthew, Hannah, Sarah, Laura, Michael, Lauren and Alivia; nephews, Brian (Catherine), Halifax and Robert (Sandra), Marion Bridge; and cousin, John (Lorraine) Walker, Marion Bridge. The last surviving member of his immediate family, Ralph was predeceased by his parents and brother, Gordon. Ralph's early years were influenced by his experiences growing up in the Ashby area. Ralph enjoyed many things in life, one of which was the gift of conversation along with his passion for his children and grandchildren's sporting activities. Ralph took great pleasure in talking with his grandchildren about where their life passions and interests lie. An ordained United Church Minister from Pine Hill Divinity College and a proud alumnus of Mount Allison University. His first ministerial charge was in Lot 16 and Malpeque, PEI in 1959 followed by Saint John, NB, North Sydney, Stellarton, NS, Moncton, NB, Glace Bay, and finally Dominion, NS. Through his ministerial work, Ralph had a great impact on many people's lives, his compassion, storytelling, and sense of humour will be missed by those that knew him. He "retired" in 2009 to Marion Bridge where Ralph, along with Henrietta, enjoyed sharing time with their 16 grandchildren 'Out on the Mira'. Ralph was a talented baseball and hockey player and was inducted into the Cape Breton Sports Hall of Fame in 2019. Our family would like to express our sincere appreciation to the staff at the Medicine Shoppe, Welton Street and Dr. Saliba, and recognize the passionate support provided by the VON nurses and palliative care team at the Cape Breton Regional Hospital.

A funeral service was held in the United Protestant Church of Sydney River on April 24, 2023.