

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

*DOUGLAS
DUNBAR
ROSS*



NOV. 13, 1943 ~ JAN. 13, 2026

Our dear dad (lover of obituaries and appreciator of funerals) is gone. At the time of his passing, dad was lovingly surrounded by family, who faithfully counted his breaths until they disappeared. In the same serene way dad lived, he slipped away in the afternoon of January 13th, 2026.

As "World's Greatest Dad" title holder (with the mug to prove it) he was gentle, loving, strong, and kind. Dad possessed an endless supply of patience, quarters, and gum. He instilled in all six of his girls a deep love for Cape Breton music and heritage, always reminding us to honour those who had come and gone before us. He was handsome and funny, and called anyone he had ever met (in person or not) a friend. No stranger to hard work, dad provided well for his family without complaint about how tired he must have been, coming home instead with a smile and willingness to spend time with his enthusiastic girls. There are so many things we could say about how wonderful dad was, but the thing freshest in our minds now is how beautifully he embodied suffering well over the past few years. While communication was very difficult of late, we never once had to wonder if dad loved or was proud of us. He'd shown consistently over the years that he adored his family.

Left to mourn are his beloved wife of 59 years, Muriel (Etheridge) Ross, who cared so selflessly and tenderly for dad during his battles with cancer and Parkinsons; his sister Anne (Irving) Deale, his brother Sandy (Josephine), daughters Laurie (Lloyd) Skinner, Suzanne (Ian) White, Tracey (Hugh) Morrison, Allison (Jason) Swan, Barbara (Brandon) Nielsen, and Angela (Carey) Ross; grandchildren Charles, Jessica (Lee), Rebecca (Marcus), Caelan, Joey, Carey, Abigail (Ben), Timothy, Emma, Hannah, Alexander, Tucker, Avery, Audrey, James, Katie, and Ben, and great-grandchildren Ellen, Everest, Oliver, and Emily; and many nieces and nephews (especially Catherine and Kevin after the passing of their father). It goes without saying that the MacDougall Lake Ainslie crew, lifelong friends, regular caregivers, church family and colleagues amassed over the years are feeling this loss as well - you know who you are and we love you!

Dad was predeceased by his beloved Grandma Annie (MacRae) Ross, Grandpa Tom Joe Ross, who he worked alongside on the farm - planting trees and caring tenderly for the animals; Uncles Douglas and Alexander, and Aunt Lila - all who he never met, but kept their memories alive in all of us through stories, letters, and pictures; Charlie Tom and Josephine (MacDougall) Ross - loving parents he missed deeply; brother-in-law Irving (Anne) Deale; cherished sisters-in-law Tanya and Sandi Carmichael, niece Hannah Carmichael, dear son Matthew, and grandchildren Semeion and Lucas Skinner, who died in infancy.

We are forever grateful to Joseph Ghattas who so patiently and gently helped mom care for Dad over the past few years, and to Joseph's dear family, for sharing him with us.

With eternity on the horizon, dad was able to communicate to us the deepest regrets of his life. By God's grace, these were nailed to the Cross of Christ, in which dad trusted for this life and for the next. He is with Jesus, perfected and rejoicing. We will meet again, and while we're heartbroken, we are grateful for how evident God's faithfulness and guidance has been to all of us in this time, especially over the past month. We know you're more alive than you've ever been, Dad (1 Thess. 4:13-18). See you soon.

Funeral service will be held at Margaree Valley Baptist Church on Friday, January 16th, at 2pm. Reception to follow. In lieu of flowers, donations could be made in memory of Dad to Meals on Wheels Margaree.