



Captain Ron Forbes

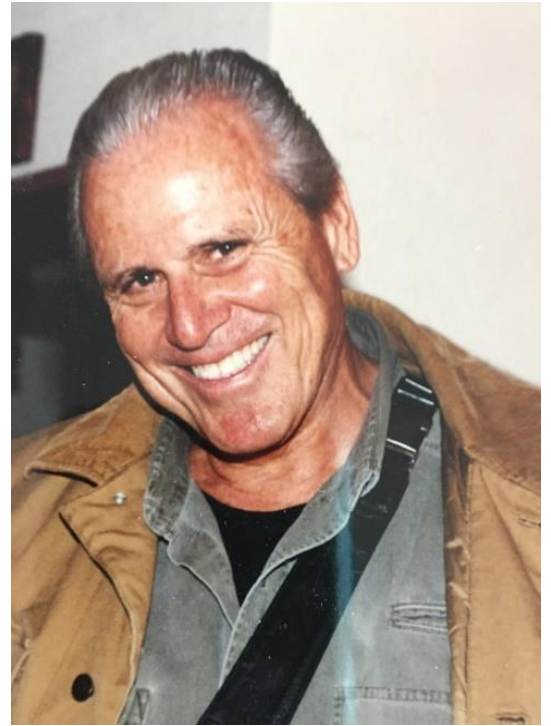
March 28th 1944 – July 25th 2017

In Loving Memory of Ron Forbes.

After living a life rich with passion and adventure, Ronald Wayne Alan Forbes lost life's final challenge with courage, dignity and humor.

Surrounded and wrapped in the love of family and friends, Ron passed away peacefully at his home in Kelowna, BC. His huge smile, contagious enthusiasm, and legendary sense of humor will be missed and remembered by all who met, knew and loved him.

Ron's dreams for a life of adventure on the high seas far from the prairies, began at a young age when he joined the Sea Cadets in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Pursuing this path he enrolled in the Officer's Training Program at Esquimalt, BC, which led to flying training in Portage La Prairie where he proudly received his wings. It was here that he was selected as a carrier pilot to fly Tracker aircraft off his beloved HMCS Bonaventure. After 4 years in Halifax, he was given the opportunity to receive and fly the multi-engine Hercules Aircraft based in Edmonton, Alberta. Flying to exotic locales satisfied his adventurous spirit, but he now had a young family to consider so he sadly ended his military career in favor of a more domestic one.



This new era in Ron's life began in 1972 when he was hired by Pacific Western Airlines as a first officer, flying Hercules aircraft and 737's doing mainly domestic routes. This fledgling company grew into Canadian Airlines with expanding overseas routes, and expanding pride. As a First Officer on the DC10-30 and 747-400 he formed many lasting friendships with colleagues and crew members who remember him for his competency, ready smile and sense of fun. Finishing off his aviation career with Air Canada as a Captain on the 767, he looked forward to exploring new horizons.

Upon his retirement in 2004, after living in California, Costa Rica, and Arizona, he chose his favorite place in the world to settle...his "Little Kelowna". It was here that he was able to pursue and showcase his talent for landscape gardening, real estate endeavors, his love for skiing and cycling, and the annual hosting of his boisterous clan in the beautiful backyard of his home on Thacker Drive.

Illustrious as his flying career was, his proudest achievement was the raising of his four accomplished children. To them he was a mentor, instigator, advisor, nutritional counsellor, and his loving influence will be permanent and indelible. His radiant smile, huge heart, legendary sense of humor, and engaging conversation will be dearly missed by all who met, knew and loved him.

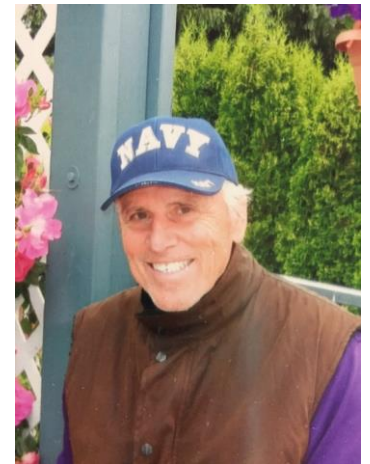
As his beloved daughter in law Wendi said of him,

"He would talk to the dirt on his shoes if it answered him back!"

He leaves behind to forever mourn his loss his wife of 50 years, and childhood sweetheart Beverley, (nee Sawchyn), his son Todd Cameron, daughter in law Karin, and two grandchildren, Kennedy and Steele of Scottsdale, Arizona. His son Tyler Scott, daughter in law Wendi, and three grandchildren, Zoey Blu, Kiah Grace, and Truman Andrew of Solana Beach, California. His daughter Tiffany Jill, son in law Yves Russi, and two granddaughters Madeline Joyce and Ella Margaret of Luzern, Switzerland. His youngest daughter Tarin Amanada, son in law Bradley Ellender, and three grandchildren Mya Dru, Amelia Charleston, and Bradley Ronald of St. Petersburg, Florida. Also there to share a final goodbye in celebration of a lasting friendship were cherished relatives Don and Lois Edelson, Lorie and Tim Chimuk, Cameron and Charlene Edelson, and Marnie and Brian Jackson of Winnipeg, sister in law Shirley Meszaros and nephew Chris of Peachland, as well as long time childhood friends Jon Raby and Jimmy Stokes of Kelowna, and his brothers from a different mother", Rex Mataij and Dave Ramsey.



We wish to thank all of the people who touched Ron's life in so many positive ways and gave him encouragement during the hard times. Dr. G. Verster, Dr. D. Lobay of Kelowna, Dr. Sharon Gurm of Port Moody, Dr. Paul Klimo of West Vancouver, as well as a special thank you to the caring nurses and staff of the Cancer Center and 4B of the KGH.



***Thank you for being the captain in our lives,
And know we all love you as we say our goodbyes.
We find great comfort tucked safely beneath your loving wings,
As we navigate our journey facing whatever life brings.
Our flights will cross again one day spreading our wings along the way,
In tight formation we'll look down from above always protecting those that we love.***

Until We meet Again.

There will be a celebration of Ron's life at a later date.