PURCELL, Jon

-June 6, 2024



Jon Purcell's zest for living was always evident in his infectious and mischievous grin and his sparkling blue eyes. He left us too soon.

Jon passed peacefully at the Grace Manor on June 6, 2024. He was the only child of the late Jack and Rita Purcell. He is survived by his loving wife of 41 years, Jan, his son Devon (Eleni Bleeker) and daughter Julianne (Peter Woyzbun), three grandchildren (Sofia, Remi, Magnus), his sister-in-law Deborah McLachlan, and family in Toronto and Cobden.

'Purce' was that rare athlete who excelled at a wide variety of sports, including varsity hockey and football, and winning the Vanier Cup in 1966. He taught business and coached football at Colonel By High School. Jon was absolutely adored by his students and all who knew him. Jon played old timers hockey and skied with the Masters program. For decades he was also kept busy with buying and managing properties.

His greatest joys were being in the outdoors and being with his family. Jon proudly built the family cottage and loved building walking trails in the woods.

For years Jon enjoyed playing guitar with his band and touring festivals including Bluegrass, the Ottawa Folk Festival, and Ottawa Bluesfest. He played at the Black Sheep for ten years on Friday afternoons. Jon's love of music brought so many together for song and laughter. Jon volunteered as a Cub Scout leader, coached boys Atom hockey in Low, was an organizer for many years at The Gatineau Clog, musician for various local fundraising events, volunteered in the Outaouais ski racing community, and was a municipal councillor for Wakefield. What he cherished most was family and friends. Jon will be remembered as a gifted athlete, loving husband, doting father, lifelong pal to his many friends, and one to rarely miss a party. He will be hugely missed and forever remembered.

A reception will be held at the Centre Wakefield La Pêche 1-4 p.m. on Friday, June 21st. Donations in Jon's memory may be made to The Dementia Society of Ottawa and Renfrew County or The Salvation Army Grace Manor. https://lowdownonline.com/obituaries/purcell-jon/