

George Andrew Fraser

NOVEMBER 16, 2020



George Andrew Fraser, husband to Beverley

Fraser was born in Ottawa ON, in 1939. He is predeceased by his parents, George Henry Fraser and Violet May Jay, immigrants to Canada from Scotland and England. He passed away at home in Chilliwack on November 16, 2020. He leaves behind his beloved wife, Beverley, daughter Heather Fraser-Maahs (Randall, deceased), David (Debbie) Fraser and Colin (Shehla) Fraser, grandfather to Gordon Maahs, Steven Maahs, Laura (Maahs)Ziemer, Katie (Fraser) Copland, Shayla (Fraser) Borik, Scott Fraser and Jade, Mya, Brighton and Ayesha, Fraser. Great Grandfather to Lincoln, Blaine, Georgia and Charlotte Maahs, Paxton, Landry and Hudson Maahs, Oliver, Samuel, Violet and Marigold Ziemer and lastly Kai Copland who shares his birthday. Stepfather to Geoffery (Landis) and Tim (Lyndelle) Graham and step grandfather to Beckett and Elliott.

An outstanding legacy for an only child.

Andy, as his friends and loved ones called him, had varied accomplishments in his life and career. When he attended Fisher Park High school in Ottawa, he enjoyed track and field and became the fastest runner in Canada for a time. He was also the author of the school newspaper forecasting shades of things to come.

Andy was married to Margot McDermid from 1958 - 1993 with whom he had three children. He worked in Ottawa for eight years as an assessor for the government.

The family moved to Espanola Ontario in 1967. There, Andy branched out into other careers. He owned a camera and developing shop that also printed t-shirts for team sports etc. Later he became the editor of one of the two local newspapers which he enjoyed for a number of years, his love of writing once again coming to the fore. Andy also did a lot of free lance writing for several magazines including the North American Soccer League between 1978 - 1986. Throughout his time in Espanola he became very involved in the Little Theatre group. He acted and directed a number of productions, including high school plays that won several awards. Andy also enjoyed referring football games for the Espanola Spartans' football games.

The family then moved to North Vancouver BC where Andy worked as the Managing Editor for the North Shore News. Following that, he took a chance on a life dream and started The Fraser Connection as a tour owner operator to primarily Scotland but eventually many other countries. This turned out to be his calling. It combined his love of Scotland, history and his desire to share this with many of his clients, many whom returned year after year.

Andy married Beverley Graham in 1998 who became his tour and life partner for the next twenty two years. Together they ran this very successful business doing what Andy loved, sharing his beloved Scotland and his love of travel and history with many people over the years.

These are the stats. They don't speak to what kind of a man he was. How he would hold his grand babies and sing softly to them as he calmed them. It doesn't speak to his eloquence in writing, so that you could feel the places or issues he spoke of. He was a kind, soft spoken gentleman. Well, except for his inability to abide bad drivers. Oh those bad drivers.....

There was also a prankster side of him. Who of us hasn't been burned by the hot spoon just having been in a scalding hot cup of tea or coffee?

Being a champion of words, he had some doozies for those he was frustrated by. This especially included watching his son Colin play soccer, and then, many of his grandchildren's soccer games. His enthusiasm was in a word, epic. And I did mention his lack of ability to abide what he considered bad calls by the refs. New vocabularies were born during these games and events. Historic and epic but oh so supportive and faithful to those he loved. He had your back.

Besides being their dad, Andy shared individual special bonds with his three children. He had Heather's back in politics, letters to the editor, speeches, always the editor and supporter. When Heather's husband died, he would call her the day after every board meeting, understanding all too well the need to debrief.

Andy and Dave shared a love for all things Scottish. Deep diving into the families ancestry and genealogy, Dave became the family historian, making sure Andy's legacy lives on in the annals of time and history.

Colin and Andy shared a love and for all things soccer/football, both local and international. Colin has passed that love on to his own children who are exceptional soccer players. We know Grandpa was very proud.

There are so many other things we could say about our dad. Our love of music originated with him. Growing up I think we owned every single movie musical album. And eclectic? We'd find ourselves humming along to a German marching song recognizing it and then realizing it was from one of his many albums. He came home one day with the album *Abbey Road* when it came out. Andy enjoyed

and appreciated all the good things about all cultures around the world. His knowledge of history and facts, and just everything in general was far and deep and wide which is attributed to his love of reading. He passed this love along to many of us.

How does one sum up a life well lived and to express the depths of our feelings and memories we all share? It's almost impossible and this seems inadequate but we hope that over time, those of you reading this will share with us any memories that are special to you with Andy.

God Speed Andy/Dad. We'll see you on the other side.

Cards of condolence (no flowers please) may be sent to Mrs. Beverley Fraser, #2207 - 8485 Young Road, Chilliwack BC V2P 7Y7.

You are invited to leave a personal message of condolence for the family.

Messages of Condolence

What wonderful memories you all have of a delightful man. I enjoyed all of my Untour tours! You take care Bev, will be thinking of you.

— **SHIRLEY R DEERING**

Andy was one of a kind and treasured traveling with such enthusiasm and knowledge. My regret is not coming into their lives earlier and experience the many travels Bev and Andy put together in the past. For the few trips I took with them they became family to me and I will never forget Andy, his humor, laugh and love for life. He will be greatly missed.

— **Tyler Sommer**

"Annum Carra" ...forever friends. May this Scottish saying live within your hearts with the memories of Andy. My deepest sympathies to Beverley and family. Cherish and remember well the years you had together Beverley.. they will always be with you. Thoughts and prayers are with you at this time, and may many happy memories soon replace your grieving. Love from Rochelle

— **Rochelle Callaway**

What a wonderful tribute to Andy's life. I feel honoured to have known and travelled with Andy and Bev both. My sincere condolences at this time. We will miss Andy so very much!

— **Barb McNair**

My heartfelt sympathy to you Bev and your family on the passing of dear Andy. My late husband Ian and I had two memorable trips with The Fraser Connection - first, many years ago, to Scotland which still stays in my mind everytime I look at the photographs of sitting at the Edinburgh Tatoo In The Rain!!! But we enjoyed every minute of the evening especially with the Hot Toddies served by the huge stone fireplace at the Hotel. Our second trip was a Van Ride to 3 Eastern Provinces and remember going over the Confederation Bridge - beautiful sight, then the "kissing of the Cod"! Andy had a wonderful personality and he was a true gentleman! Send Love & Hugs.

— **Gail Grant**

Hi Bev, We were so sorry to hear your news. We traveled with you in 2003 to Scotland. It was one of our favorite vacations. A few years later Dick suffered a cranial bleed and we have not been able to travel. We stayed on your list and enjoyed hearing and seeing where you were headed each season. Just a few days ago I re watched the Tattoo from that year, so am sure of the date. You two made travel not only fun, but such an enjoyable learning experience.

— **Helen and Dick Stender**

Dear Bev.

There are no words to express my sadness upon Andy's passing. I didn't know him, but he made you very happy during your time together. Your friendship meant a great deal to me when you lived just down the street and it still does.

Love to you and your family.

Carol

— **Carol Stephenson**

Dear Andy

Your obituary brought back fond memories of our shared time in Edinburgh. Your family knows you intimately well and clearly loves you so much that every word aptly depicts the gentleman I had the pleasure of knowing and the soul I had the honour to feel connected with.

I remember fondly enjoying a glass of Royal Lochnagar together on a Summer night by the bar's bay window of Channings in Edinburgh: your wit, your smile and your kind eyes are still vividly clear in my mind and in my heart.

Farewell, dear Andy: may your joie de vivre keep inspiring all your loved ones.

Yours aye,

Marco (I have married a Fraser, so I feel a little part of the 'extended' family)

— **Marco Truffelli**



<https://www.myalternatives.ca/obituaries/fraser-george-andrew>

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