REMEMBERING

Thomas James McCaughey

August 23, 1955 - February 2, 2023

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved Husband, Father and Papa Thomas James McCaughey. Thom passed from the arms of his family to the arms of God on Thursday February 2, 2023 surrounded by his girls, wife Eleanor and daughters Sarah, Jenn and Caitlin.

Thom was born on August 23,1955 to parents Glen and Betty McCaughey in Hamilton Ontario. At 8 years old, he moved to Toronto where his parents were trained in the Salvation Army as Officers (pastors). After their two year training, they spent Thom's growing years living in various cities across Canada, finally landing in Calgary Alberta where he met the love of his life, Eleanor.

Thom and Eleanor married and built their first home in Calgary living happily among lifelong friends and family. They grew their family from two to five before adventuring to Cranbrook, BC. Cranbrook became home for more than 30 years. Thom loved the community of Cranbrook. He had numerous careers, but he shone brightest while working for the social sector of the Salvation Army. Thom also loved volunteering with the Cranbrook Community Theatre. Passionate about on and off stage opportunities, he built wonderful friendships and treasured his experiences including serving on the Board of Directors. His love for Fort Steele Heritage Town grew over many years and he served passionately on the Fort Steele Board striving for the betterment of this local historical treasure.

Thom's greatest joy was his daughters who he raised hands-on. He intentionally invested in their growth, confidence, successes and independence. His buttons popped the day he became a Papa and his legacy of love spread through the branches of his family tree. Papa could always be counted on for a snuggle, a story book or countless hours of train building.

Thom is predeceased by his parents Glen and Betty McCaughey, sister Wendy

Taylor, and infant brother Stevie Jay.

Thom is survived by his wife Eleanor, daughters Sarah O’Donnell (husband Patrick; kids Riley and Emma), Jenn Spyksma (husband Adam; kids Azriel, Janoah, Jaron and Aleena) and Caitlin McCaughey. Brothers Gordon (Jill), Steve (Julie) and many loved nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family members, and countless friends.

The family would like to thank the amazing Palliative Care team at the East Kootenay Regional Hospital and Doctors Ken Brown and Kathryn DesAutels for the compassionate care given to Thom, and support to our family.

Thom couldn’t tell a petunia from a peony; in lieu of flowers please consider donating to the Canadian Cancer Society or the BC Renal Agency.

A service will be held at First Baptist Church, Cranbrook BC on Saturday February 25 at 1:00 pm.