

George Braden

1949-2015

Our husband, son and brother, George, passed away at his home in Nepean, Ontario, on the evening of Monday, May 25, with his loving wife of 16 years, Lise, at his side. He succumbed to gastric cancer diagnosed in March of this year.

George was born in Rosthern, Saskatchewan, in 1949 and the family moved to Yellowknife in 1964. He graduated from Sir John Franklin High School and earned degrees in political science at the University of Alberta and Dalhousie University. He has been involved in public office and public service to the North most of his working life.

We are intensely proud of the role George played in the evolution of the NWT: as MLA for the riding of Yellowknife North; the NWT's first Elected Leader and a Minister in the Legislative Assembly 1979-83; Commissioner of the NWT's spectacular pavilion at the Vancouver World Expo in 1986, and deputy minister of several departments in subsequent years.

While he lived in Ottawa for the past couple of decades, he was continuously connected with the North through his consulting work and collaborating with other seasoned Northern hands. Over the past five years, George was policy advisor to Nunavut Senator Dennis Patterson, a role that included him at senior levels of the federal government's northern program team.

The family is deeply appreciative of the remarkable compassion shown by George's colleagues and friends in Ottawa and across the North, and in the NWT Legislative Assembly. Your many gestures of support



*George Braden, Commissioner, NWT Expo 86 Pavilion.
Photo courtesy of NWT Archives.*

and affection impressed on us just how much you valued, in Senator Patterson's words, "his fine brand of dry humour, keen intelligence, humility and humanity to support improvements for northerners."

George is survived by his wife, Lise Beaudry-Braden; mother Esther; sister Sandra Dehnke, brothers Bill, Max and Pat, their spouses and eight nieces and nephews. His father, Bill, predeceased him in 1994. Plans for a family remembrance will be announced at a later date.