Joseph D. Coles

1939 ~ 2010

On Wednesday,
October 6, 2010, Joe
passed peacefully into
the arms of his Lord &
Saviour, Christ Jesus
and was surrounded in
blessings by Marianne,
his loving and devoted
wife of 25 years; his
beautiful daughter, Debbie,
his grandchildren David
and Lauren; and his dedicated
employees, Leroy and Ivan.



As a devoted father, he will be gently remembered and sadly missed by both of his children, Debbie (Drew) of Ft. McMurray and Stephane (Michelle) of Toronto. He leaves behind to mourn, his brothers, Kevin and Louis; his grandchildren, David, Lauren, Neil and Nathan; a large extended family and many friends and colleagues. He was predeceased by his parents Ellen and John Coles; his sisters Cecile and Theresa and his youngest brother, Johnny.

Joe came to Yellowknife in 1969 as a diamond drill foreman and the old miners will tell a story of how Joe saved the mine from being shut down. His energy and vigour took him from diamond drilling to real estate on to work in the coroner's office and finally to establish Jofran Enterprises. Joe was a story teller and he could spin a good yarn and make people laugh. But more important than his day-to-day work, Joe's real work and real passion was his love of the Gospel and he was able to share his love of the Bible as a gifted preacher and teacher to the people of the North.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at St. Patrick's Church on Tuesday, October 12 at 1pm. Interment to follow at the Lakeview Cemetery in Yellowknife. (Arrangements under the direction of Mckenna Funeral Home, www.mckennafuneral.com)