



# Captain Ralph Paul Mahler

February 20, 1953 - December 27, 2008



Ralph was born in Val d'Or, Quebec. His family then moved to Sudbury, Elliot Lake and Windsor, Ontario before settling in Toronto when Ralph was eight years old. He graduated from the University of Toronto with a Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Engineering in 1976 and joined the Canadian Armed Forces later the same year. He was a dedicated Military Engineer throughout his career and had postings to North Bay, Kapuskasing and Ottawa, Ontario, followed by Chilliwack, BC, Gander, Newfoundland and Yellowknife. Ralph met Kathie (nee Pearce) during basic training in Chilliwack and they were married in 1982 while living in "Kap". Their children were born during their subsequent posting in Chilliwack.

Ralph loved the outdoors and enjoyed motorcycling as a young man and canoeing, camping and hiking throughout his life. He participated in many adventures with his military friends, his family and other friends, especially while in Yellowknife. Ralph was an avid home handyman and always had a project (or several) in progress. He also enjoyed his time as the Treasurer/Starter and "resident MacGyvor" for the Yellowknife Speed Skating Club.

Ralph will be remembered for his dedication to family and friends, willingness to help others, sense of humour and many engineering feats. Ralph will be greatly missed by his wife Kathie, children Kirstin, Rebecca and Ryan, mother Paula, brothers Mark (Lorrie), Peter (Joanne) and numerous other family members and friends.

A celebration of life was held for Ralph at The Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Yellowknife on December 30, 2008. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to The Heart and Stroke Foundation, The Military Families Fund or a charity of your choice.