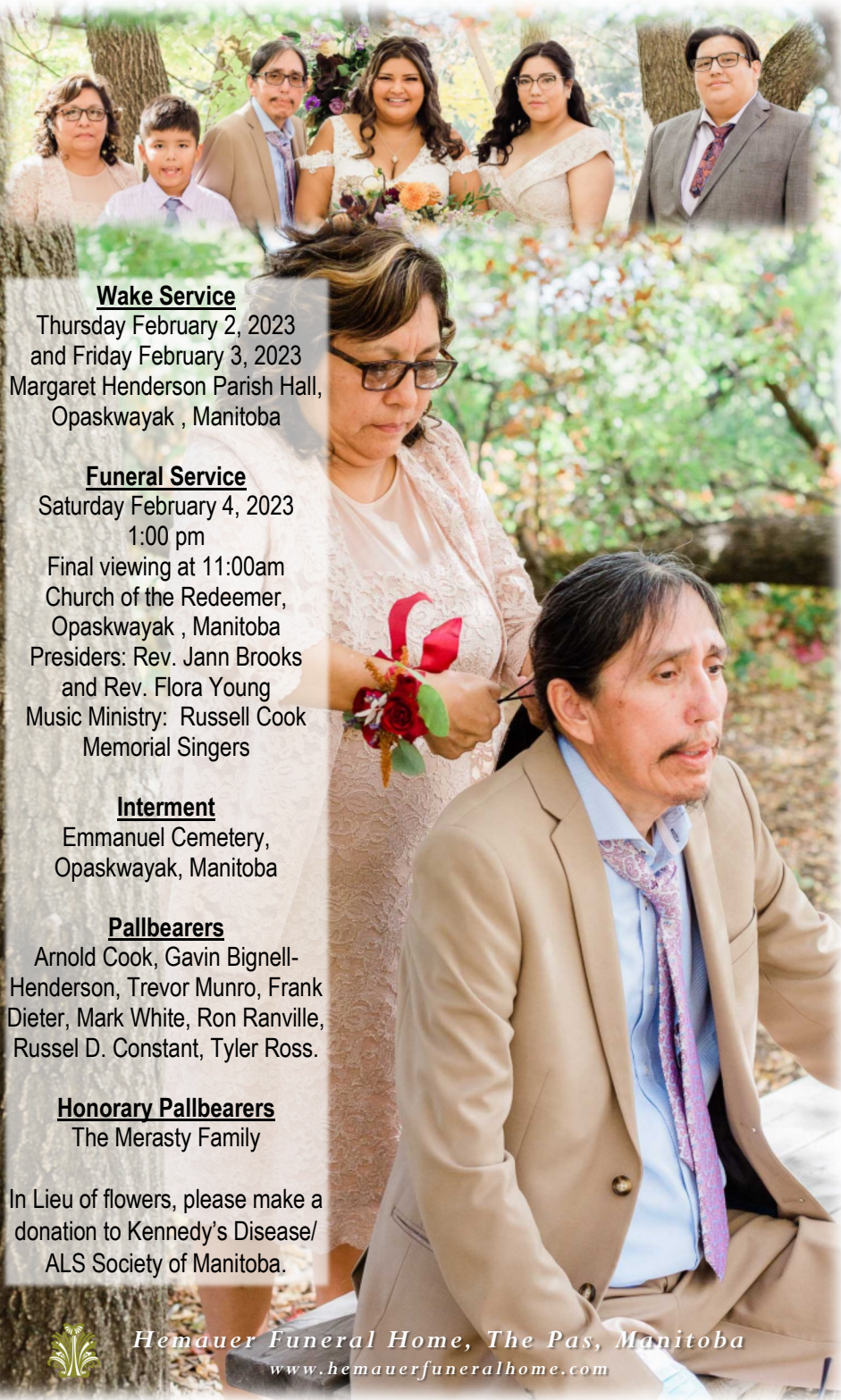




Wake Service

Thursday February 2, 2023
and Friday February 3, 2023
Margaret Henderson Parish Hall,
Opaskwayak , Manitoba

Funeral Service

Saturday February 4, 2023
1:00 pm
Final viewing at 11:00am
Church of the Redeemer,
Opaskwayak , Manitoba
Presiders: Rev. Jann Brooks
and Rev. Flora Young
Music Ministry: Russell Cook
Memorial Singers

Interment

Emmanuel Cemetery,
Opaskwayak, Manitoba

Pallbearers

Arnold Cook, Gavin Bignell-
Henderson, Trevor Munro, Frank
Dieter, Mark White, Ron Ranville,
Russel D. Constant, Tyler Ross.

Honorary Pallbearers

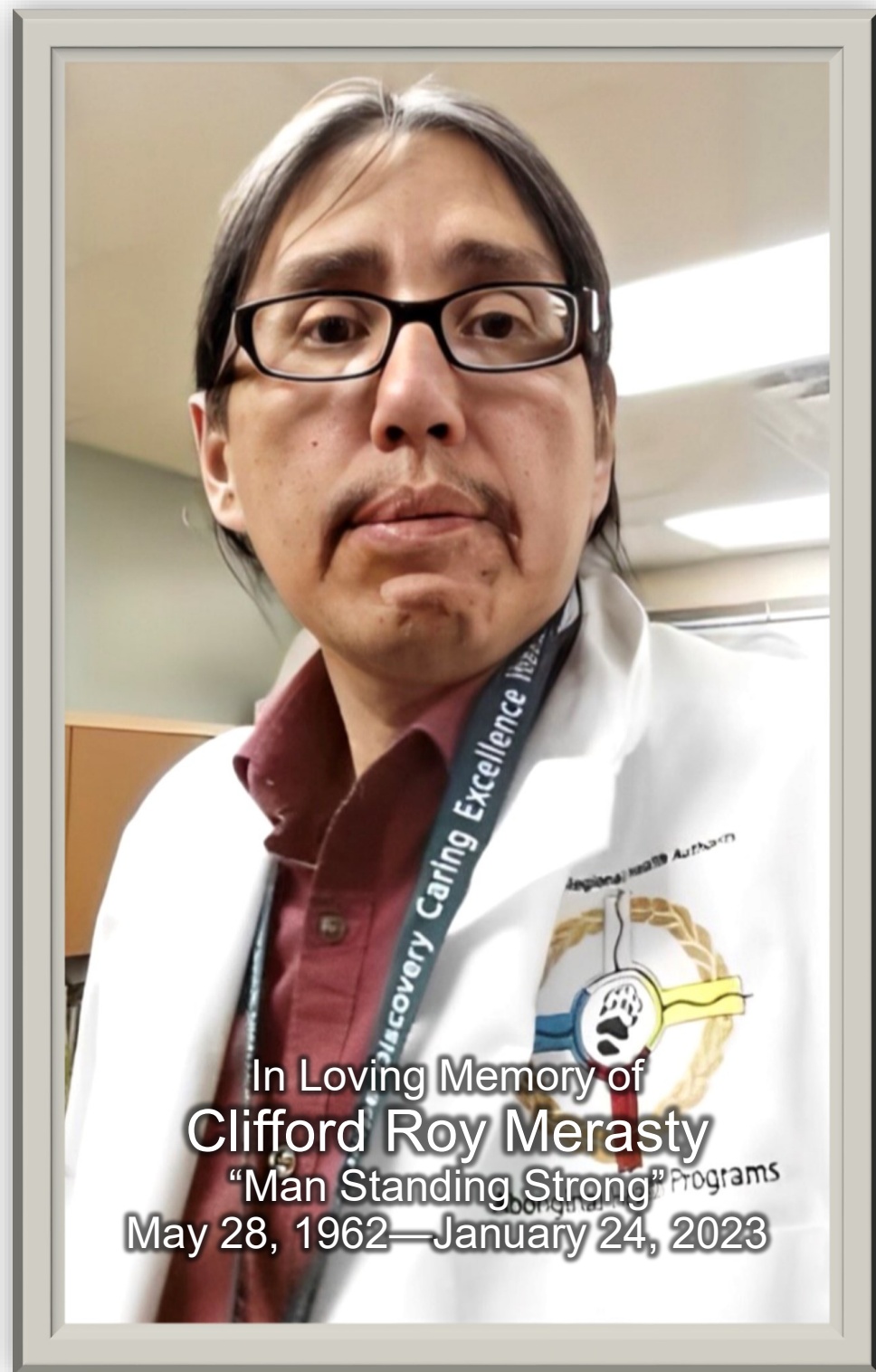
The Merasty Family

In Lieu of flowers, please make a
donation to Kennedy's Disease/
ALS Society of Manitoba.



Hemauer Funeral Home, The Pas, Manitoba

www.hemauerfuneralhome.com



In Loving Memory of
Clifford Roy Merasty
"Man Standing Strong" Programs
May 28, 1962—January 24, 2023

Clifford Roy Merasty was born Monday, May 28, 1962 to Emil and Elsie Merasty at St. Anthony's General Hospital in The Pas, Manitoba. He passed away peacefully on Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg, Manitoba, with family by his side. He was 60 years old.

Growing up, Clifford's first language was Cree and often translated for his beloved grandmother Annie Lathlin (nee Whitecap). Dad spoke fondly of his grandmother Annie raising him and teaching him Cree language, and traditional ceremonies. Being introduced to traditional lifestyle, Dad grew up being a strong believer in his native spirituality and culture.

Education: In his early years, Dad attended residential day school at The Little Red Brick School and Guy Hill School for one summer, both in The Pas, Manitoba. Dad graduated as a mature high school student at Joe A. Ross School in 1995. Dad continued his education at Keewatin Community College, receiving his Facilities Basic Management and Facilities Technician Certificates in 2003 and 2004.

"You wanna hear a love story?" Dad would ask when he talked about how he met the love of his life. Clifford married Karen Elizabeth (Cook) Merasty (**medicine woman walking stick**) on July 21, 1990 at the Church of Messiah in Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Manitoba. They met September long weekend of 1989 in Winnipeg, at the Westbrook Inn (the wessy). Clifford immediately fell in love with her smile and went to find her in the city. Once found, Karen invited Clifford in for soup, tea and bannock and the rest is history.

Clifford and Karen welcomed three beautiful children, first and best Kendra Annie Merasty in 1992, then his baby girl Leah Erin Merasty in 1994, and lastly his baby boy Royce Malcolm Merasty in 2002.

Clifford had a very busy work life, he started working at the age of 15 until he retired due to his medical condition in October 2018, he was 56 years young. Dad worked for many organizations such as Native Communications in OCN, NADAP for many First Nation Communities, Manitoba Adult and Youth Corrections, McDonald Youth Services, Winnipeg Friendship Centre, Community Development Worker for Swampy Cree Communities, Native Clan Organization in Winnipeg, Manitoba, The Pas Friendship Centre as a Corrections Liaison Officer, Correctional Services of Canada (both in Manitoba and

Saskatchewan), and lastly, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority with Indigenous Health Services as a Cree Language Interpreter. He also did various consulting work and human development workshops. He was a strong advocate for others in his many lines of work.

Clifford lived a sober life, celebrating 40 years of sobriety on January 22, 2023. It was one of his biggest accomplishments and was very proud and inspired many others to live the sober lifestyle.

Dad loved hunting, golfing, camping, barbecuing, travelling with family, watching NHL and MLB games, visiting his "friends" (AKA casinos) all throughout North America, and was an active hockey supporter for the youth. He attended a golfing academy in San Diego, California after high school graduation but returned after a short period of time. He missed his family back in Opaskwayak Cree Nation. He loved travelling with his brothers David and Alvin to different golf courses all throughout North America.

Clifford will be greatly missed by his **wife** of 32 years Karen Elizabeth Merasty; **children** Kendra (Gavin Bignell-Henderson), Leah, Royce, (noosim Liam), David (stepson), Tania, Carlton, Tyler, Kyle, Joni (stepdaughter). Family cat: Deacon "Lou" Merasty; **brothers** Alvin Merasty (Marie Merasty-favourite sister-in-law), Conrad Merasty, Clayton Merasty; **sisters** Marguerite McKay, Doreen Beardy (Frank Beardy), Rose Merasty (Mark White), Patricia Merasty; **brothers-in-law** Arnold Cook, Andrew Cook, Allan Cook, Issac Cook; **sisters-in-law** Lori-ann Cook, Judy Cook, Nellie Cook-Kematch. Clifford will be dearly missed by all his nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and chapans.

Predeceased by **parents** Emil and Elsie (nee Lathlin) Merasty; **brothers** David Merasty, Albert Merasty; **sisters** Emma Cook, and Camelia Buck; **grandmothers** Annie (Whitecap) Lathlin and Charlotte Merasty; **grandfathers** Andrew Lathlin and David Merasty; **uncles** Issac Merasty, Angus Merasty, Joe Merasty; **aunties** Margaret Ballantyne, Helena Favel, Liz Merasty, Angelique Merasty, Cecile Merasty; **brothers-in-law** Seaford Kematch Jr., William McKay, William "Junior" Halcrow; **sisters-in-law** Helen Merasty; **In Laws** Lawrence and Lois (nee Brass) Cook; **long time friend and golfing buddy** Percy Munro; as well as numerous other relatives and friends.