

VISITATION

Saturday, September 17, 2022 Noon—4:00 pm
Chapel of Hemauer Funeral Home, The Pas, MB
Presider: Fr. Shantha Gandamalla

WAKE SERVICE

Monday, September 19, 2022
Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Pukatawagan, MB

FUNERAL SERVICE

Tuesday, September 20, 2022 1:00 pm
Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Pukatawagan, MB
Presider: Fr. Dhana Amarlapudi

INTERMENT

Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery, Pukatawagan, MB

PALLBEARERS

All Ralph's nephews

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Stan Castel and family, Adam Richard, Myrtle Morin,
Linda McKay, Alvina Bradfield, special brother Ovide
Morin, Eli Castel and family, Roy Colomb and family,
Eli Bighetty and family, his Jetai family (Mile 122),
Adelaide Bighetty and family and
all other family and friends.

Thanks to Mathias Colomb Cree Nation Chief and Council
and various organizations that helped Ralph make his
journey home. Special thanks to the doctors and nurses at
St. Boniface Hospital, Health Sciences Centre, Bethesda
Reginal Health Centre, CancerCare Manitoba and Home
Care Nikawiy Health for the care given to our brother
through his illness.

*In lieu of flowers, donations to CancerCare Manitoba,
ON1160 – 675 McDermot Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba,
R3E 0V9, would be appreciated by Ralph's family.*



Hemauer Funeral Home, The Pas, Manitoba

www.hemauerfuneralhome.com

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Joseph Raphael
Melvin was born in Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan, on Wednesday, May 21, 1952 and was raised by his loving parents, Caroline and Luke Dumas. After the passing of his mom, his sister Elly continued to be Ralph's caregiver.

Ralph was the oldest of 15 children Luke and Caroline had. He was the best big brother to his siblings and although he never had any children of his own, he had many nieces, nephews and grandchildren and helped raise all of them.

He loved, protected and guided all the children, like they were his own. Ralph loved making the children happy. He would often be seen holding the babies, sharing his treats, and just spending quality time with them.

The simplest pleasures in life brought great joy to Ralph. He loved spending time outdoors. He was always outdoors. Ralph's favorite thing to do was to fish. He had many fishing stories to share with everyone, but his favorite, was the one of catching the biggest robot. Often times, people were confused until they realized he was talking about a burbot.

As a young adult, Ralph worked hard for the people in his community. He was very important to the community and to the elders. He helped by hauling water and wood for those who could not do it on their own. Ralph loved to be of service to others and would often be seen doing odd jobs for family and friends in the neighborhood to make money for himself.

Ralph loved making people happy, especially children. He was well known by all the children in the community because he was so kind, loving and gentle with them. He loved giving the kids rides in his wheel barrow and making sling shots for them.

One of Ralph's favorite things to do was to participate in ceremony. He loved drumming and singing and could often be heard outside singing with his drum. His favorite thing to do was to help with the sweat lodge behind his house. He always wanted to help prepare for the sweat and always wanted be the fire keeper when sweats were held behind his house.

Although Ralph was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma in the fall of 2021, he remained dedicated to his family and in his will to fight his illness. Ralph lived life to the fullest and loved everyone deeply. He remained a brave, iron-willed man, even throughout his final days. Ralph passed away peacefully the afternoon of Friday, September 9, 2022 with the love of his family surrounding him.

Ralph is survived by his **sisters** Victoria, Annliese, Marie (Bill), Sandi, Joyce (Leon), Betty (Edward), Yvonne (Gordon), Diana, Flora (Ray), Ellianne (Art) and Gloria (Bill); **brothers** Glen (Serena) and Wayne (Karen). He is also survived by many cousins, nieces, nephews and grandchildren in Pukatawagan, Sandy Bay and surrounding areas, too numerous to mention. Ralph will be sadly missed by his best four legged friend "Smokey".

Ralph was predeceased by his **parents** Luke and Caroline Dumas; **grandparents** Alex and Flora Dumas, Demolie and Raphael Bear; **adopted uncle** Willard Kilpatrick; **sister** Marie Rose; **brother** Luke Marc Dumas II; aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews too numerous to mention.

