

MacCool, Joseph Edward – April 22, 1930 – April 4, 2017 – Joe MacCool of Derry, Northern Ireland, Peterborough and Picton, Ontario passed away peacefully surrounded by his beloved family. He will be sadly missed by his children Martin and his wife Lesley of Winnipeg MB, Colm and his wife Cindy of Prince Edward County, Fiona and her wife Jennifer of Toronto, and the late Anne MacCool. “Grandpa Joe” will also be missed by Brendan, Erin, Jack, Isabelle, and Sam.

We take great comfort in knowing that Joe will be reunited in spirit with Lil, his beloved wife of 51 years. Theirs was a love like no other, and their devotion to one another inspired everyone who knew them.

Joe was also beloved “baby brother” to the late Mick MacCool and Noreen MacCool, Sister Colm O.P.

As a young man, Joe MacCool left Northern Ireland in search of a better life for himself. His journeys, which he loved to tell his family about over and over again in great comic detail, took him to Dagenham, England, a Paulist seminary in Lake George, N.Y. and eventually Toronto Ontario where, on February 23, 1961 at 4:55pm at the Catholic Children's Aid Society, he met Lil Murphy and they embarked on a life together defined by faith, love of family, and service to those in need.

Joe had many weird (and not so wonderful jobs) before eventually becoming a teacher where he touched the lives of so many as a guidance counsellor at St. Peter's High School and as a Special Education teacher in several elementary schools across Peterborough and surrounding areas.

Before but especially after they retired, Joe and Lil dedicated years of their lives providing support to vulnerable people through their work at Telecare and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. For years, as the clock struck midnight on New Year's Eve you would find them volunteering on the phones to listen to lonely and isolated people who had no one else to talk to.

The work Joe and Lil did to help others was not the kind that gets recognized with awards and public tributes and they would not have had it any other way.

An amateur theologian, master joke teller, golf addict and track and field enthusiast, he also enjoyed nothing more than sitting next to his wife reading her murder mysteries with his children and grandchildren close by. His smile, wit and huge heart will never be forgotten by all who knew him.

Mr. MacCool is resting at the Whattam Funeral Home 33 Main Street, Picton, Ontario., where visitation will be held on Thursday April 6th, 2017 followed by a funeral mass to be held at St. Gregory's Catholic Church, Picton Ontario.