

Clifford Jude Maxwell

08/26/1941 - 08/27/2016



Obituary for Clifford Jude Maxwell

Maxwell – Clifford Jude of St. Thomas passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family, at the St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital on Saturday, August 27th, 2016, at the age of 75. Beloved husband and best friend of Patricia (Brisson) Maxwell and dearly loved father of Jennifer Maxwell, Michelle Denniss (Dan), Laura Verboven (Rob) and David Maxwell (Leslie). Cherished grandpa of Andrew (Bri), Bailey (Curtis), George and Ruby. He is survived by his sisters, Pat Ciasca. Predeceased by his sisters, Joan Maxwell and Betty Reid and Terri Maxwell and brothers, Jerry and Jack Maxwell. Lovingly remembered by several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Cliff was born in Cape Breton, N.S. on August 26th, 1941, son of the late Clifford and Bridget (Neville) Maxwell. He was the proud owner and operator of Maxwell's Foto Source in St. Thomas. Cliff was past president and life member of the Optimist Club, a 4th Degree Knight with the Knights of Columbus, past director of the St. Thomas Chamber of Commerce, member of the St. Thomas Downtown Development Board, member of the Friends of St. Joseph's Board and founding member of St. Anne's Parish Council. Cliff was also a founding member of the band, The Leprechauns. He had a passion for music, a wonderful sense of humour and truly lived life to the fullest. Cliff impacted so many people's lives and will be forever loved and missed by all who knew him. Mass of the Christian Burial will be held at St. Anne's Parish on Wednesday morning at 10:00am. Interment to follow in Holy Angels' Cemetery. Visitation will be held at Williams Funeral Home, 45 Elgin Street, St. Thomas on Monday evening from 7:00-9:00 p.m. and on Tuesday from 2:00-4:00 p.m. and 7:00-9:00 p.m. Prayers will be recited at the funeral home on Tuesday at 6:45 p.m. Memorial donations may be made to the St. Thomas Optimist Club (Minor Sports) or to the St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital Foundation

SERVICES

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MAR

Church

🕒 10:00 AM

📍 St. Anne's Church
20 Morrison Dr.
St. Thomas, ON

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GUEST BOOK

Dear Pat and family; I am on the West coast enjoying southwestern Canada & northwestern USA and just got word about Cliff. Like many others, memories of Cliff are many and all pleasant, mostly funny. Most fun was when the Leprechauns performed at a G-R event in St. Thomas and were then invited to go to Mansfield, OH by company plane and do the company's Christmas party there. What a trip!! Many more memories in St. Thomas as well. We were so blessed to have had such a person with all of us. So sorry I can not be there. My thoughts roll through the years he was with us as I roll through other of God's wonders. He will be soooo missed.

- Bill Horn

Dear Pat and family, Remembering Cliff and you with fond memories. I have Fr. Ernie Desippe to thank for the first introduction many years ago. No doubt they have causing havoc in the heavenly mansion. Be assured of my prayers for Cliff and all of you and my offering of Mass on the weekend for the repose of his soul. May he rest in peace. Father Rick Janisse (Harrow, ON)

- Fr. Rick Janisse

Dear Michelle and family, we are so sorry to hear of the passing of your dad. Although we met Cliff only a few times he

always made us laugh, smile and feel part of your family. We had so much fun listening to him play his music and sing. What a talented man. It was a pleasure to know Cliff. Our hearts and love go out to you and your family. Mike and Lynn LeBel

- Lynn LeBel

Dear Pat & Family, We were heart broken to hear about Cliff. He was truly one of a kind. The type of person you only had to meet once to remember forever. One of those few people that could have you crying halfway through a joke that should take 30 seconds to tell but Cliff would turn it into a 10 minute story. Though gone far too soon he has left an indelible mark on all that knew him. We were blessed to have known him and our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Wayne, Kim, & Jaclyn Palmer.

- Wayne Palmer

Dear Pat We just wanted to tell you how saddened we were to hear of Cliff's passing. He had his challenges in recent years but he still always greeted us with his wonderful smile. I have many fond memories of the "fishing weekends" in Penetang and of his performances with the Leprechauns. He had a wonderful love of life that shone through whether he was on the stage or not. He will be missed! We are up North now and will be unable to attend the Funeral, but please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. With our deepest sympathy Gord & Jan Smith

- Gord Smith

Pat and family: from the family of Jack and Edith Rive, we send our love. Bernie and Bertha's parties would not be without you and the antics we shared. We are very thankful to you all for those memories. Together we stand in love and admiration. Gary and Karen

- karen

Dear Pat, Jen, Michell, David, Laura and family. Just wanted to let you know you are all in our thoughts and prayers with loss of your Clifford. We were so fortunate to have all of you as neighbors and friends where we all have many treasured times and unforgettable memories. On our trips to St. Thomas we show up at your door, for a quick visit any time day or night and always being greeted with a warm and loving welcome and catch up with all the family and local news. So many stories but one we wanted to share was when Clifford decided to put in a vegetable garden, he planted, water, prayed and it was very very slow. One night a few of the gang got together, shopped for vegetables and visited his garden overnight. (surprising they didn't wake them up with all the shovels going and laughter). On his usual trip to his garden in the morning, Clifford was amazed, and so proud sharing his good news. We are still laughing everytime this story comes up in discussion, showing his wonderful sense of humor and love of life which these traits are dominate in all the family, so the seed is planted. Loving husband, wonderful father, grandfather, friend and community person. A great man who will be missed. For Clifford. Until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hands. Keep strong and treasure the memories. The Hammer family

- Elizabeth Hammer

Dear Pat and family, we offer our very deepest sympathy in the passing of Cliff. He was always a joy to be around, playing guitar singing and his countless jokes. If you were in a funk he would make you laugh! Our prayers are with you! John Paul and Barb Rau

- Barb Rau

Pat & Family, I have sooooo many memories, it's hard to remember all of them. David you must remember when your dad & I played that dime trick with you in your rec room!!!! You must have gotten \$1.50 !! I'm really glad I visited Cliff three weeks ago when he was in hospital, We shared some laughs about old times. Another story, we were driving to Toronto to attend a wedding seminar, we were on the 401 in my 72 monte carlo it had an 8 track cassette, I put Rhinestone Cowboy on and turned it up. Cliff reaches over, pulls the cassette and throws it out the window..... He said I don't like that song!!!! I think Glen Campbell was one of his favorites. Pat..... so sorry, He will be missed. Avery

- Avery Colledge

Store One April the first, 1957, St. Joseph's High School, Grade 9 Latin class taught by Sister Emanuel An excited Cliff Maxwell calls out from the back of the room: "Sister, there's a man in a yellow shirt leading a donkey down White Street." Sister Emanuel, who can't see the street from the front of the room, turns to Cliff and says, "I know what day it is. You can't fool me." Before he sits down, Cliff points and says, "But sister . . ." She continues the lesson for a few seconds while she edges toward the window. When she finally turns and looks out, the entire class roars in laughter. She laughs too but she turns to Cliff and says, "I'm watching you Maxwell." We all were. Story Two Summer, 1958, on Talbot at Ross Street in front of the YMCA. The Friday night dance crowd is spilling out onto Talbot Street. Cliff stops at the red light on Talbot. He's driving the dark green Maxwell family 1955 Buick Roadmaster. A guy in a Chev with a rumbling V8 pulls alongside and the driver revs the engine. Cliff, up for the challenge, puts the Roadmaster in neutral and revs his engine too. Everyone is watching. The race is about to begin. The light turns green, the Chev dashes away from the light, tires smoking. Cliff tramps down on the accelerator and slams the Buick into reverse. The Buick's tires screech too but in the wrong direction. There are screams from the sidewalk. "Look out." Luckily, the driver behind Cliff was heads up. He backs away and Cliff is able to stop before hitting him. Once stopped, he carefully slides the Buick into drive, waves to the crowd and laughs as he slowly moves through the intersection.

- Mike Mulhern

Dear Pat, Jennifer, Michelle, Laura, David and family, I was so very sorry to hear you'd lost Cliff. What a big footprint he has made in the lives of so many! His love of life was infectious and his comedic and musical talents were huge...and he happily shared them. I always said how awesome it was to hire a wedding photographer and get an entertainer thrown in for the same fee. :) Sending love and hugs to all of you and to the Brisson family. Sincerely, Pam

- Pam Bedour