

## *Obituary for Paul Bottineau*

Paul Bottineau

Born February 7, 1943, in Kirkland Lake, Ontario Died March 27, 2020, in St. Thomas, Ontario Best friend and husband of Janet Regan Bottineau. Father of Joshua, Karen, John, Kate, Nicole, and Anne-Marie. Pancho to Jade and Kennedy Lawrence; Maggie, James, and Blake Bottineau; Ben and Sam Taylor; Kileigh, Emmett, and Sean Harrington; and Connor, Maddie, and Jana Moore. Father-in-Law to Justin Lawrence, Nicole Skinner, Jeff Taylor, Paul Harrington, Bill Moore, and new good friend to Rob Mayea. Son of the late Mary and Celestin Bottineau. Brother of Bruce, Jerry, and Barry Bottineau, and the late Joanne Hall.

Paul was the best friend and husband of 55 years to Janet (Regan) Bottineau. His “Hannah” was the melody in his life song. Together, they built a home filled with love, laughter, and music. The door was always open at 48 Marlene Street for family and friends to drop in for food and a song. An extraordinary dad, he nurtured the unique strengths of his six children and wrote their lives with six strings and a staff. Through the songs he composed, he snapped into focus the incredible power of music to create and foster relationships. He provided an exemplar for how to love and treat other people.

A lifetime educator, Paul was committed to encouraging young people to succeed and had a profound impact on everyone he met. He began teaching at St. Raphael's Elementary School engaging students with his guitar and his stories. He graduated elementary school and taught for ten years at Parkside Secondary School before accepting a position as a Special Education Consultant with the Elgin County Public School Board. He finally found his home away from home as Vice-Principal at St. Joseph's Catholic High School. He loved being a Ram.

Husband and best friend, Dad, Pancho, Uncle Paul, Murray, Botts, or Mr. Bottineau; he was one of the great ones. A man of strong faith and family values, he chose to see the best in every person he met.

He is now singing with Joshie B, his best friend Uncle Cliff (Maxwell), Fra Morgan and other family and friends up in heaven. The party up there is becoming better than the party down here:

“All my life's a circle.”

Love you to the moon and back.

A private funeral service was held on Tuesday, March 31. Donations can be made to the Parkinson's Foundation or The Children's Wish Foundation. Williams Funeral Home, 45 Elgin St., St. Thomas in charge of arrangements.

Send flowers to the service of Paul Bottineau

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