



Franklin Loehde

NOV 17, 1936 - MAR 23, 2023



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Franklin Loehde

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Franklin Caesar John Theodore Loehde was born in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada on 17 November, 1936 to the late Heinz Caesar and Mitzi (Marie) Merth Loehde.

He was preceded in death by his wife Audrey June Loehde née Lea-Wilson in 1989.

He is survived by his elder sister Marlies Loehde in Vancouver, BC, his younger brother Dick in Morinville, AB, his wife Valerie and their children Theresa, Debbye and grandchildren. Franklin is also survived by his three children, Jason in Huntersville, NC, his wife Veena and their children, Diana in Seattle, WA, her husband Michael Arends and grandchildren Nicole and Janelle, as well as his youngest daughter Laureen in London, England with husband Conor Mackey and grandchildren Hugo and Killian.

He was an avid traveler and explorer, visiting every continent save Antarctica and had a rich and curious mind, finding interests wherever he went. One of his first passions was astronomy, starting in high school. In university he was active at the Dominion Astronomical Observatory and made many contributions to the Telus World of Science over a number of decades. Another one of his keen interests was music, he sang in his youth and attended hundreds of concerts from opera to jazz, to world music to electronica. His family attended many of these with him and he inspired many other people to share his interests.

He met Audrey in the staff room at Bonnie Doon High School in Edmonton where they were both teachers (He physics/science and she english) and they were married in 1965. Jason was born in 1967, followed by Diana in 1970 and Laureen in 1973.

He was also past national president of Royal Astronomical Society of Canada of which he was a member for 65 years. He was a co-founder, past president and fund raiser at the Edmonton Regional Science Fair. He continued to be a keen astrophotographer into his later years and added global weather patterns to his interests.



Obituary

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Franklin was motivated by politics and was active in conservative parties at both the provincial and federal level in Canada. He was also a keen backer of the Edmonton Eskimos and Edmonton Oilers.

He moved to Charlotte, North Carolina in 2018 to be closer to his son and daughter-in-law.

As he would say:

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

Services will be livestreamed at <https://www.jamesfuneralhomekn.com/obituaries/Franklin-Loehde/#!/PhotosVideos>



Events


Franklin Loehde

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Celebration of Life

 **Friday**, April 14, 2023

 1:00 PM ET

 **James Funeral Home**
10520 Arahova Dr, Huntersville NC 28078



Livestream

 **Friday**, April 14, 2023

 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET

 <https://www.jamesfuneralhomekn.com/obituaries/Franklin-Loehde/#!/PhotosVideos>
AK

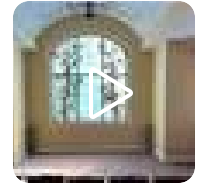


Tribute Wall

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James Funeral Home shared a **Webcast Video**.



April 12 at 4:40 AM



Dan Eckert posted:

I thought of Franklin when I went to the grand re-opening of the original Edmonton Planetarium last October (and I think I caught a picture of him in the presentation). Thinking of growing up next door in the Highlands brings back many fond memories. It was a nice presentation and slide show that you did and I'm sorry for your loss.

April 13 at 8:16 PM



Luca shared a photo to the **Slideshow** album.



April 17 at 10:19 AM



Laureen Loehde April 29 at 11:52 PM

Great photo, thanks! ❤️



Luca April 17 at 2:50 PM

Here's a photo of Franklin in 2012 attending the RASC General Assembly presentations on astronomy, with his usual rapt attention.



John Hill shared a video to the **Slideshow** album.



April 14 at 4:59 PM



Tribute Wall

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DR

David Roles lit a candle in honor of Franklin.

Franklin was a very dynamic individual and a tremendous asset to the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. He will be remembered and admired for many years to come. – David Roles

April 14 at 9:06 AM



CP

Claudia Pardo posted:

I only met Mr. Loehde a handful of times, and each time he was always lively and engaged. My sincerest sympathies and love to all his family.-Claudia Pardo, Canada

April 14 at 6:07 AM

HA

Hans & Edel Arends posted:

We met Franklin as our son, Michael, dated his daughter, Diana, and later married her, and we became in-laws. We spent enjoyable hours at his home and numerous other visits. We always found his travel stories interesting and conversed with him on a multitude of other subjects. We are saddened at his passing, and send our love and best wishes to his children, their spouses and his step and grandchildren. Our sincerest condolences, Hans and Edel Arends, (Morinville, AB)

April 13 at 9:21 AM

LE

Lowell & Irma Eckert posted:

So sorry to hear of your father's death; you will miss him very much. He did us so many kindnesses in the 22 years that we were neighbors and he certainly lived a very full life. Lowell and Irma Eckert

April 11 at 11:07 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful Dreams to the Loehde family.

April 10 at 11:42 AM





Tribute Wall

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CG

Chris Gainor posted:

I'm very sad to get this news. Franklin was not only a friend, he was something of a mentor to me. I met him when I first joined the Edmonton Centre of the RASC as a young student back in the 1960s. When I rejoined the RASC after a few years away, I resumed my friendship with Franklin, and it continued up to the present day. Although our political opinions differed, I often went to him for sage advice during my time on the board of the RASC. I was also fortunate to know his wife Audrey, who was also a wonderful person.

March 28 at 6:55 PM



Alice Ruiz posted:

Sorry to hear of Franklin's passing. I met him in one of my trips around the world. He was a friendly and honest man. My sincere condolences to his family and friends.

March 26 at 8:06 PM

JH

Janis (Denby) Hargreaves posted:

I was in Franklin's Science 10 class at Bonnie Soon High School, probably not long into his career. I remember the bow ties & the blushing when we teased him! Then, just a couple of years ago I was reconnected to him through a mutual friend and we had lovely chats & shared lots of laughs. I realized what a wonderful life he had with many adventures. I am so very sorry his family has lost him so soon. Please accept my condolences. Remember him with smiles, I know I will.

March 26 at 6:34 PM

LF

Love Cousins Debbie S, Kathy S & Family sent a Basket Full of Wishes to the Loehde family.



March 26 at 8:25 AM



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CT

Cheryl Toshack posted:

So many memories of being on Franklin's bingo team and lots of laughs in the smoky Highlands Community Hall. Franklin was truly one of a kind. My deepest sympathies to you all. Cheryl Toshack

March 25 at 8:52 AM

DK

David King July 1 at 7:37 PM

It is Canada Day, and I have just learned of Franklin's death. Jason, Diana, and Laureen, and Franklin's now extended family are in my thoughts, as is Audrey. They had a great influence on my life in years gone by, for which I am grateful. Franklin was a person of integrity, and he was always forthright about what he thought about political and community situations. His friendship and his counsel helped me grow, for years. I was at a luncheon meeting in Victoria in early May. When the man sitting beside me learned that I had come from Edmonton, he asked if I knew Franklin Loehde. For some people, Edmonton was famous because of Franklin.

CG

Chris Gainor April 14 at 9:49 AM

I met Franklin when I joined the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada as a kid and years later when resumed my involvement with the RASC I reconnected with Franklin. I always enjoyed discussing RASC matters with him, especially since he served as a National President of the RASC and I occupied that position years later. Even though we didn't share the same political viewpoint, we had some good discussions. I'll miss him! Chris Gainor

DH

Douglas And Joan Hube April 14 at 7:07 AM

Franklin was a friend for more than 50 years. Always happy, a strong supporter of the astronomical community from local to national, an adventurous traveler, and a dependable friend. In spite of strong differences of opinion in matters of politics and science, we enjoyed many family and astronomical events together. His death will have a profound effect on many. Joan and Doug Hube

MB

Mrs Neville Bird April 14 at 2:21 AM

I am an English cousin of Franklin's father-in-law, Bob Lea-Wilson. My husband and I visited the family in Edmonton over 25 years ago and met Franklin. His wife Audrey had come over here as a young woman to make a link up to her parent's families. After Laureen settled in London Franklin made many visits over here and joined in our Lea-Wilson gatherings. He was such a talented and interesting man, everyone enjoyed meeting and learning from him. Laureen and her family like to escape from London to our countryside. On behalf of all of us here who knew him we send our very sincere sympathy to his family. I shall miss Franklin greatly Mrs Neville Bird (Coggeshall, Essex)

PJ

Peter Jedicke March 28 at 2:54 PM



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CT

I loved spending time with Franklin. The comic promotional skit Franklin did for the 1978 General Assembly is a particularly fond memory, and inspired me to... I don't dare say :-)

GB

Gord Bushewsky March 28 at 6:56 AM

taught at the same school as Franklin in the 90's. very knowledgeable guy

RB

Roy Bishop March 27 at 3:26 PM

Very sorry to read of Franklin's passing. He was a capable, considerate, and always cheerful gentleman. I shared many hours in his presence while he went through the 8-year sequence of presidential positions in the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. He was the RASC national president from 1982 to 1984. Roy Bishop

AB

Andrea Butlin (Bolding) March 25 at 3:10 PM

Frank was the first to meet our daughter when born (now 5) and took memorable pictures of our new family. Enjoyed many nights out before this time - thank you to Frank for sharing his appreciation of the Arts. We will always think of him visiting Telus Science Center or attending CFL games with the kids. My condolences Jason & family.



Media

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James Funeral Home shared a **Webcast Video**.

April 12 at 4:40 AM



Valerie Loehde April 14 at 2:13 PM

Beautiful & informative tribute to a wonderful man! So glad we had our 2021 Christmas.



Peter Jedicke April 14 at 12:56 PM

Peter and Dianne Jedicke are sharing in London, Canada



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April 17 at 10:19 AM



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Service slideshow



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Franklin by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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