

# sports

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## ■ HOCKEY

# Alf Langdon remembered as 'selfless' and 'caring'

CORY SMITH  
Sentinel-Review

WOODSTOCK — If someone needed a bingo caller, Alf Langdon was there. If a lawn needed aerating, even in the pouring rain, Alf Langdon was there. If there was a laugh to be shared or a joke to be made, Alf Langdon was there.

Langdon, a sports fixture in the City of Woodstock whose passion was hockey, died Thursday night after a long battle with cancer.



Langdon

He was 60. "He would do anything for us, anything for anybody who needed anything. He was very giving and very selfless," daughter Sue Ann Marshall said this weekend. "Right from the time I was little he went to watch our events. It didn't matter how we did or what we did, he was beaming, he was proud."

Friends and family remembered Langdon as someone who "would give you the shirt off his back if you needed it."

"He was the type of guy where it didn't matter where you were or what you were doing, if you needed something he was there," said Woodstock Minor Hockey Association president Violette Boyse, who was a board member with Langdon for seven years. "Even at his worst when he was

toward the end, it didn't stop him from doing what he was physically and mentally able to do."

**“He would do anything for us, anything for anybody who needed anything. He was very giving and very selfless.”**

Daughter Sue Ann Marshall

That included aerating the lawn at his granddaughters' dance academy during a down-pour.

"He was a very caring individual," Marshall said. "He was very

devoted to my mom (Pat Langdon, the WMHA administrator) and the grandkids."

Marshall recalled a family trip to Myrtle Beach last summer for Langdon's granddaughters' dance recital.

"It was a great time to be together and dad had so much fun," she said. "The girls were trying to teach him how to dance and it was hilarious. Everyone was laughing and it was amazing. They had him trying to do the splits at one point."

Langdon's sporting reach was extensive. He coached minor softball and helped with the now-defunct Tri-City Ambassadors baton and drum core. He also volunteered for bingos with various sporting and charitable organizations. In recent years

Langdon donated his time to the Relay for Life fundraiser, an event Marshall said her father would attend "in spirit" this year.

Langdon's love was hockey. He was a longtime co-chair for the Legion Tournament Committee that hosts the annual Silver Stick qualifiers and, despite his illness, was serving another term as the WMHA equipment director.

In April he was honoured with a minor hockey Lifetime Membership.

"It will be a huge loss," Boyse said. "The equipment room was unbelievable. Minor hockey had great control of inventory, you didn't have to search for this or that. He knew exactly where it was."

Boyse called Langdon "an inspiration" and cherished his

ability to laugh, no matter the situation. During a WMHA board Christmas dinner a few years ago, the garbage can-turned makeshift barbecue failed to cook a turkey.

"We had so many laughs that night," said Boyse. "We laughed about everything, it didn't matter that we ate the meal without turkey. He said, 'let's pretend it's on the plate.'"

"It didn't matter what was wrong or what wasn't there, you moved on with it."

Visitation is scheduled for today from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Woodstock's Smith-LeRoy Funeral Home, 69 Wellington St., North. The funeral is Tuesday at 11 a.m., also at the funeral home.

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**LANGDON, Alf** - At VON Sakura House in the company of his loved ones, on Thursday, May 26, 2011, Alf Langdon of Woodstock at the age of 60. Beloved husband of Pat (nee Lewis) for 43 years. Loving father of Sue Ann Marshall (Jason) of Woodstock and Bob Langdon of Woodstock. Devoted Grampa of Courtney, Joey, Madi and Cassidy. Dear brother of Donna Janssen (Tom), Bruce Langdon (Carol) and Glen Langdon (Judy). Brother-in-law of Margery Chapman (Graham), Ken Lewis (Vicki), Rob Lewis (Chris Thompson), Ted Lewis (Beth), Gary Lewis (Deanna), Vera Langdon, Marjorie Langdon and Mildred Langdon. Predeceased by his parents Gertude and William Langdon, and his brothers Clarence, Lawrence, Doug and Allen. Special Uncle of the late Tamra Lewis. Alf was a proud employee of TST Overland Express for 44 years. He loved hockey and was a lifetime member of Woodstock Minor Hockey Association and Co-chair of the Legion Hockey Tournament Committee. Friends will be received at the **SMITH-LEROY FUNERAL HOME**, 69 Wellington Street North, Woodstock on Monday, 2-4 and 7-9 pm. Funeral service in the chapel on Tuesday, May 31, 2011 at 11:00 am with Rev. Bruce Genge officiating. Interment at the Anglican Cemetery. If desired, memorial donations to the John Jensen Play Hockey Fund, VON Sakura House or the Canadian Cancer Society (for colorectal cancer) would be appreciated. Smith-LeRoy, (519) 537-3611. Personal condolences may be sent at [www.smithleroy.com](http://www.smithleroy.com)

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