



Ross W. J. Kelterborn

June 25, 1939 - March 21, 2025

KELTERBORN, Ross W. J.-Peacefully on Friday, March 21, 2025, at Freeport Hospital with family by his side. Ross of Wellesley in his 86th year. Predeceased by his wife Margaret E. (nee Yost) in 2003 and remembered by his wife Jean Kelterborn (nee Jantzi). Loving father of Kimberly (Nick Banbury) of Wellesley and Natalie Kelterborn (Julie Strickler) of Tavistock. Dear grandfather of Emma Banbury, Jack Banbury, Grace Kalbfleisch and Oliver Strickler. He will be sadly missed by his brothers Dennis Kelterborn, Doug Kelterborn (Karen) and his brother-in law Norman Yost and will be lovingly remembered by the Chalmers Family. Predeceased by his parents Earl and Grace (Chalmers) Kelterborn. Ross was born in Wellesley and resided there his entire life. He began his working career as a paperboy. He also delivered milk for Maple Lane dairy and was a bartender at the Royal Hotel in Wellesley. He went to highschool in Elmira and was an excellent hockey player. He spent many hours playing hockey on the Wellesley pond. He also played for teams in Wellesley, New Hamburg and Milverton. Ross attended "Normal School" in Stratford and began his teaching career in a one room schoolhouse in Kingwood teaching grades 1-8. Following Kingwood, he taught for over 30 years in Stratford at Northwestern Secondary School. While working at Northwestern, Ross developed friendships he sincerely cherished. During his summers off from teaching, Ross was a driver examiner for the Ministry of Transport. Ross was very devoted to family. He took great care and had a keen interest in uncovering and sharing his family history. Ross also

had an unwavering love for Wellesley as was evident in his comprehensive knowledge of the town's history. He thoroughly enjoyed his time as a member of Wellesley's Historical Society. Ross began his political career in the 1970s as a councillor. He also served as mayor for three consecutive terms and was a member of Regional Council. In 2014 he retired from politics to enjoy other passions. Like his Father before him, Ross had an ability to innovate and create. He lovingly restored a fully operational 24-horse, Alan-Herschel Carousel. This carousel was a replica of the one that he rode as a child at the Wellesley fair. Ross also restored a full size, 40 foot Eli ferris wheel. Ross was a lover of animals, especially his childhood dog Skinner and his horse Pal. Ross and Pal had many adventures such as swimming together in the Nith river. Ross enjoyed road trips with his children and grandchildren. Some favourites included the carousel factory in North Tonawanda New York, barn visits to see Emma's horse Toby and regular visits to Wendy's. He also had a fondness for cats, and one in particular was Audrey. Ross also loved spending time at The Bush where he could be outside, work on various projects and spend time with his family. Friends may call at the Futher-Franklin Funeral Home, 1172 Henry Street, Wellesley on Wednesday 7-9 p.m. and Thursday 2-4 & 7-9 p.m. Funeral services will be held at Wellesley Mennonite Church, 157 David Street, Wellesley on Friday, March 28, 2025 at 11 a.m. Cremation will follow. Donations to the Alzheimer Society of Grand River Hospital Foundation for Freeport would be appreciated.

www.futher-franklinfuneralhome.com

Donations may be made at the funeral home and church or by following these links:

Alzheimer Society Stratford Perth

www.alzheimer.ca/huronperth/en

Grand River Hospital Foundation

www.grhf.ca/

Cemetery Details

Parkview Crematorium

Waterloo, ON (CA)

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 26. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Futher-Franklin Funeral Home
1172 Henry Street
Wellesley, ON N0B 2T0 (CA)
(519) 656-2880
chris@futher-franklinfuneralhome.com
<http://www.futher-franklinfuneralhome.com>

Visitation

MAR 27. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Futher-Franklin Funeral Home
1172 Henry Street
Wellesley, ON N0B 2T0 (CA)
(519) 656-2880
chris@futher-franklinfuneralhome.com
<http://www.futher-franklinfuneralhome.com>

Visitation

MAR 27. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Futher-Franklin Funeral Home
1172 Henry Street
Wellesley, ON N0B 2T0 (CA)
(519) 656-2880
chris@futher-franklinfuneralhome.com
<http://www.futher-franklinfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

MAR 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

Wellesley Mennonite Church
157 David St
Wellesley, ON N0B 2T0 (CA)
(519) 656-2700

Pastor Matthew Bailey-Dick officiating

Tribute Wall



“ *Futher-Franklin Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Ross W. J. Kelterborn*



Futher-Franklin Funeral Home - March 27, 2025 at 09:58 PM

DC

“ *Dear Nat & Julie and Kim & Nick, so sorry to hear of the loss of your Dad / Ross. I enjoyed reading your tribute to your Dad. It brought back memories of those long car rides - he really enjoyed a good road trip even better when Kim or Nat were driving and he got to be navigator!*

His presence will be missed and our thoughts are with you, Darlene & Ryan

Darlene Colwell - April 15, 2025 at 10:40 AM

JF

“ *Our deepest condolences to the Kelterborn family*



Janet, Tom and Cole Foster - March 26, 2025 at 07:44 PM

JP

“ Ross’s carousel was magical when I was a child! I remember how exciting it was to leave church at WMC on a summer Sunday and hear the music beckoning to us to come for a ride. Those are very fond memories for me. Peace and love to his family as they mourn their loss.

Jessica (Mavin) Pavilonis - March 25, 2025 at 09:57 PM

CH

“ Charlie lit a candle in memory of Ross
Kelterborn



Charlie - March 25, 2025 at 04:37 PM

CK

“ Thoughts and Prayers are with all the Family.RIP Ross.
Charlie&Darlene Koebel

Charlie&Darlene Koebel - March 25, 2025 at 04:37 PM

AM

“ I am so sorry to hear of Ross!s passing. I was fortunate to have met Ross and taught with him at Northwestern. I remember the time on his commute to Northwestern his fronte window broke.It was winter . Ross arrived so cold but this was a small example of his dedication to his profession. As the years passed I was very fortunate to have our paths cross. My thoughts and prayer!s are with Ross and his family. He will be greatly missed.

Allen Moore

Allen moore - March 25, 2025 at 01:51 PM

LF

“ Love and hugs from The McCallum family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Ross W. J. Kelterborn.



Love and hugs from The McCallum family - March 24, 2025 at 12:01 PM

KH

“ deepest condolences to his family.

Kim Hergott - March 24, 2025 at 11:33 AM

RD

“ My condolences to the Kelterborn family. I have many fond memories of talking local politics with Ross and our get togethers as the unofficial "Rural Mayors' Caucus" when we were at the Region of Waterloo together. Trips for fish n chips at the local diner in Kitchener. Lots of fun discussions. Rest in peace Ross. You will be missed.

Rob Deutschmann - March 24, 2025 at 09:49 AM

KM

“ Our sincerest condolences, Will and Karen McLaughlin

karen mclaughlin - March 24, 2025 at 08:21 AM



“ Chris Franklin lit a candle in memory of Ross
W. J. Kelterborn



Chris Franklin - March 23, 2025 at 08:22 PM

KB

*I had the honour to work with Ross for many years. Deepest Sympathy.
Kevin & Shelley Beggs*

Kevin Beggs - March 24, 2025 at 08:45 AM

LT

*Ross enjoyed attending our Men's community breakfast at Heidelberg
Bible Fellowship Church many times and it was a privilege to share the
Good news of the Gospel with him. Sincerest sympathies. Henry te
Winkel.*

Lillian & Henry teWinkel - March 24, 2025 at 04:32 PM

DD

*Kim, Natalie...my sincere condolences to you and the entire
family....always enjoyed my chats with your Dad...thoughts and prayers
are with you...RIP Ross*

Dianne Ditner - March 25, 2025 at 11:22 AM

SS

*i served alongside Ross on Regional Council for a number of years and
always appreciated his common sense approach to issues and his "get
'er done" approach. Rest in Peace Ross and my sincerest condolences
to friends and family.*

Sean Strickland - Waterloo Ontario

Sean Strickland - March 28, 2025 at 11:13 AM