



**DENEIKO,
Laurie J.
May 29, 1961 -
July 25, 2023**

Laurie Deneiko, aged 62 years, passed away at Royal University Hospital, Saskatoon, Sask. on Tuesday, July 25, 2023.

Laurie Deneiko was born on May 29th, 1961 in Watrous, Sask. to Russ and Shirley Deneiko of Young, Sask. Laurie was a middle

child, the youngest of five brothers: Randy, Bruce, Mike, and Terry, and older than his two sisters, Cathy and Carrie. Laurie grew up on the family farm near Young. Being the youngest of five boys, he often needed to remind them to "Wait for me!" As a teen, Laurie enjoyed playing competitive volleyball and even competed in the Saskatchewan Winter Games. This was of course when he was not helping with chores. Laurie met the love of his life, Gwen, at 16. After connecting at the Drive In, movies played an important role in their dating life. They escorted each other for their high school graduation in 1979. Laurie graduated from SIAST in 1982 with a business diploma in accounting. In 1983 he went on an Agricultural Exchange to Australia where he farmed sugarcane and learned to hate beet pickles. Upon returning home, he took the Kelsey meat cutting course graduating in 1985. He started work for Lorne Jones that April. On July 20th, 1985, Laurie and Gwen got married. Two days later, they put the \$500 down payment on Model Meats in partnership with Jerry and Gail Abrey. Over the next few years, they worked hard to get the business up and running. On January 25th, 1991, Laurie and Gwen welcomed their oldest daughter, Carlie. In 2003, Laurie, Gwen and Carlie travelled together to China and brought home Jaz Lin to complete their family. Laurie was a caring father and always showed up for his family. He attended every dance performance, ball game, and music recital. He chaperoned every trip he could for both his girls. He accompanied Jaz Lin on her Europe trips, including the 100th Anniversary of Vimy Ridge, as he loved history. After, their travel group stopped in London to see Carlie and Donovan too. He was a businessman and hard worker who took great pride in his job. He especially appreciated all the people he had the opportunity to work with and touched throughout his 38 years in business. He was even nominated for the SEBEX Business of the Year Award along with his many other accomplish-

ments. Laurie loved camping and travelling. As a family, they went on numerous international holidays and always visited Carlie on her adventures. Most recently, Gwen and Laurie went on a Caribbean Cruise this past January. They also went camping every summer as a family. The second weekend of July was reserved for a group camping trip with friends he had known since birth. Laurie loved rock music, as he grew up in the '70s, but also had a soft spot for country. Just ask Gwen how much she loves Johnny Cash! As a family, they attended many concerts, musicals, and local theatre productions. Laurie was a friend to everyone he met, always greeting you with a smile and making you feel better about life in general. He was gentle, kind, caring and helpful. Laurie was involved in the community, often going above and beyond. Laurie was generous to a fault and would give the shirt off his back if someone needed it. He made sure every kid that walked into Model Meats was greeted with a piece of beef jerky or a beer stix. People would come from far and wide for his beef jerky and he even gifted it for many occasions including weddings! Laurie always supported and donated to every local cause and fundraiser.

Laurie loved his life, his family, and his job. He is survived by his wife, Gwen, his daughters Carlie (Donovan) and Jaz Lin, his mother Shirley, and his many family members and friends. He had a great impact on everyone who knew him.

Laurie was predeceased by his father, Russel Deneiko.

Memorial service was held at Watrous Civic Centre on August 1 conducted by Pastor Darren Holland.

Urnbearer was Terry Deneiko. Kelly Seib, Brenda Rink and Denise Thoner were register attendants. Ushers were Greg Seib, Wes Rink and Garth Thoner. Cathy Deneiko and Beverly Palibroda gave the eulogy. Pianist was Shelley Engele.

Private family interment will take place at a later date.

Memorial donations directed to Camp Easter Seal or Watrous & District Food Bank, two charities very near to his heart would be appreciated.

To leave online condolences, tributes or to make a donation, please visit <https://fotheringham-mcdougall.com/>


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