

Brian LaClair - Obituary

Brian LaClair of St. Johnsbury passed away on June 6, 2012 at the age of 65 after battling mesothelioma for more than a year.

He was born in Schenectady, N.Y. on Jan. 23, 1947, the son of Leon and Delphine (Heath) LaClair. He graduated from St. Johnsbury Academy in 1965 and attended Lowell University.

Brian was the owner/operator of LaClair's Sheet Metal Shop, a business he shared with his father, Leon. Brian's attention to detail in ductwork and his precision sheet metal work with copper are known around the Northeast Kingdom.

He was an active member of the St. Johnsbury Kiwanis Club since 1995, serving as club president in 2002-2003. He was instrumental in the refurbishing of the Kiwanis Pool, was Kiwanian of the Year in 2005, and received the distinguished service award in 2009. Brian was awarded the Chairman's Certificate of Appreciation for his active work with Kiwanis facilities and creating the club website.

Brian was a thoughtful and caring husband. He had a passion for gardening, vegetables, and flowers. One of his greatest points of pride was taking each of his six grandchildren to Disney World when they turned 7 years old. Brian was a devoted family man and coached his daughters' little league teams.

Brian is survived by his beloved wife of 36 years Patricia of St. Johnsbury; father Leon LaClair of St. Johnsbury; two daughters: Wendy LaClair Morrissette and her husband Mark of Falmouth, Maine; Katherine LaClair Heywood and her husband Christopher of Willow Grove, Pa. He is also survived by his six grandchildren: Wendy and Mark's three children Andrew, Peter, and Catherine; Katherine and Christopher's three children Maximillian, Zachariah, and Benjamin. Brian has three surviving sisters: Brenda Wright and husband Charles of Bolton, Mass.; Trudy Wright and husband Richard of Poland, Maine; Lauri Perry and husband Douglas of Jackson, Mich.; many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated in St. Johnsbury this Saturday, June 9, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. at St. John the Evangelist Church located on Main Street. Burial will be at the convenience of the family.

Visiting hours will be held at the Sayles Funeral Home Friday evening, June 8, from 6-8 p.m.

Memorial contributions, marked in Brian's name for 'The Pool,' may be made to The St. Johnsbury Kiwanis Club, PO Box 204, St. Johnsbury VT 05819.