



Birth and Deaths

Card of Thanks, In Memoriams, Engagements

DIED

DAOUST, Roger H. - Suddenly in St-Anicet on May 18, 2005 at the age of 71 passed away Mr. Roger H. Daoust, husband of the late Aline Gagnon. He is survived by his son Martin (Diane Vincent), his daughter Nathalie, his companion Monique Quenneville, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, cousins and many relatives and friends. Visitation was held Saturday, May 21, 2005 starting at 12 noon at Rodrigue Montpetit et Fils Inc. Funeral Home, 170 Chateauguay St., Huntingdon followed by the funeral service at 3:30 p.m. in St-Joseph's Church, Huntingdon. Burial St-Joseph's Cemetery. Donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be greatly appreciated.

McGRATH, Richard James - On Thursday, May 12, 2005, a beautiful sunny day passed away Richard James McGrath, born April 29, 1930. Richard was a gentleman scholar, teacher and mentor, a sensitive man of many talents and a genuine lover of nature, animals and overalls, a true legacy to all who were fortunate enough to have known him. He leaves behind his brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews and a multitude of precious friends. He will be dearly missed by his godchild Joanna and his guardian angels, Donna, Gilles, Michelle and Tammy Bigras. Funeral service will take place at the Catholic Church in St-Chrysostome on Saturday, May 28, 2005 at 11 a.m. Condolences will be received from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the church. Dress code: **Denim!** (In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Woman's Auxiliary of the Barrie Memorial Hospital, in memory of Richard). Funeral arrangements entrusted to Funérarium Gibeau Inc.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to thank Dr. Gaspard and staff of Valleyfield Hospital, also Drs. Hébert and Lemieux and staff of the 3rd floor of Barrie Memorial Hospital, Ormstown for all their exceptional care. Also it is so wonderful to have such a caring family, neighbors and friends. I "thank-you" so much for cards, flowers, food, visits, phone calls and rides.

Gladys Tannahill Renaud

PRIMEAU, Nicole - The members of the family, Jovette, Diane (Jean-Louis), Normand, wish to thank everyone who expressed their sympathy at the time of Nicole Primeau's death on April 21, 2005 at the age of 57 years. The donations, cards, mass offerings, flowers, visits or assistance at the the funeral were much appreciated. Please consider these thanks as personal.



Former Gleaner co-owner, publisher will be remembered

Susanne J. Brown

Roger Daoust, former co-owner and publisher of The Gleaner / La Source, certainly knew the meaning of deadlines having spent 40 years working at The Gleaner, one of the oldest community newspapers (founded in 1863) in Quebec, which makes his death last Wednesday, May 18, all the more poignant.

Wednesdays at The Gleaner has the staff letting out a collective sigh of relief the newspaper is in the hands of our readers and another week of putting out the next issue has begun. Mr. Daoust's death was the first news of the week for The Gleaner / La Source and now for the rest of the English and French-speaking communities in the Chateauguay Valley and beyond.

Mr. Daoust died suddenly at his home in St. Anicet at the age of 71. He is predeceased by his wife Aline Gagnon and leaves to mourn his son Martin (Diane Vincent), his daughter Nathalie, his partner Monique Quenneville, as well as numerous family members and friends.

"He had a hand of iron and a glove of velvet" is how the current general manager of The Gleaner / La Source describes Mr. Daoust.

"He was a determined man who knew the results he wanted. If he couldn't do it, he wouldn't ask for it to be done. He was straight forward and trustworthy," says André Castagnier, who worked side-by-side with Mr. Daoust from 1975 until 1996 when Mr. Daoust retired. Mr. Daoust sold The Gleaner / La Source to Les Hebdomadaires Montérégiens in 1985 and continued to manage the publication until 1996.

The perfectly bilingual, seemingly shy, Mr. Daoust started his career at The Gleaner as an advertising salesman in 1956. He quickly moved up the ladder to become advertising manager when the English newspaper decided to reach a wider audience and became bilingual

in 1971.

Mr. Daoust bought The Gleaner / La Source in 1976 from Keith Howden, who bought the newspaper from the descendants of the publication's first publisher Robert Sellar, a well-known character in the English history of Quebec.

"Roger was Keith's right-hand man. He was very dedicated, dependable, good worker," says Margaret Howden, who figures it was an easy decision for her husband to sell The Gleaner / La Source to Mr. Daoust.

"Roger was always a man of integrity," says Mrs. Howden.

"He was a shrewd businessman and was active in local politics as a staunch Quebec Liberal, but he had a quiet and unassuming manner and a good sense of humor, and could always spare a few minutes to talk with people," says a former editor who worked with Mr. Daoust for 15 years.

"I will always remember him as a gentle giant," says Christine Deglaire, who also worked with Mr. Daoust for 15 years.

"I worked just about every position at The Gleaner. I came in as a novice and he was generous with his time so I was able to learn everything about newspapers," she says.

"I think he was more influential in the community than most people realized because he did it quietly," says Deglaire.

Mr. Daoust received the Quebec Community Newspapers Association's (QCNA) highest award, the Lindsay Chrysler Award, in 1998. The Lindsay Chrysler Award is presented to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to community newspapers and their success.

Roger Daoust's "name is synonymous with some of The Gleaner's brightest days and most solid accomplishments. Community newspapers have lost a valuable contributor to the industry,"

says QCNA Executive Director Greg Duncan.

"Roger always had the big picture of the needs of the community and keeping the paper profitable. He knew what mattered," says Valerie Furcall, a former journalist who worked at The Gleaner / La Source for twelve years.

Furcall started working at The Gleaner / La Source doing clerical work, but Mr. Daoust gave her the confidence to try her hand as a reporter.

"He was always supportive and gave direction. We could talk serious issues and just as easily talk about lighthearted issues. He was solid and grounded. He was our anchor," says Furcall.

Roger Daoust, says Furcall, "made the walk through life much more enjoyable."

To read another tribute to Roger Daoust, read the article on page 4 by Phil Norton, another former editor of The Gleaner / La Source.



Roger Daoust: a significant loss to the community and the newspaper industry. (Photo by Phil Norton.)