

JOHN BRUCE COLLINSON

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I was born to Ian F. and Elizabeth A. (*Betty*) Collinson sometime in the afternoon of November 26, 1948 at the Kelowna General Hospital. I had two brothers and four sisters – both parents (*Dad – 64yrs, Mom – 83yrs*) as well as one sister (*Mary-Anne – 18yrs*) and one brother (*Bob – 32yrs*) are deceased.

I have lived my entire 62yrs. in Kelowna and as such I have seen a lot of change – very little of which I am impressed with.

I spent much of my early years swimming at City Park, hiking around Knox Mtn. and elsewhere, and being a nuisance at my fathers Motor-Cycle shop (*directly across from the Kelowna Memorial Arena*).

I attended the local Public Schools (*Dehart Primary, Central Elementary, Kelowna Junior High and Kelowna Senior High – KSS*) until grade eleven (*dad died at the end of grade ten – the ensuing trauma resulted in me failing grade eleven*). Though Protestant, I attended Immaculata High School (*I believe I may have been their first*) for a second (*successful*) run at grade eleven and graduated (*grade twelve*) from there in 1969.

I married Aline-Marie Ross in 1971 and have three, wonderful, grown children (*two girls – Taunya & Sacha, and one boy -- Travis*) from that union (*divorced in 1985 – 14yrs. married*) and two grown step-children (*one boy – Cody – deceased – 33yrs, and one girl -- Chelsea*) from my present relationship. I have eight blood grand-children and three step grand-children.

I started working for Western Star Trucks Inc. in 1971 and stayed with them until their very political closing in 2002 (*32yrs.*).

I am currently sharing a very blissful, very fortunate common-law relationship with my very cherished partner -- the love of my life, Marilyn Heather Doucette; seventeen years now (*how could I ever be more lucky??*).

We live on a twelve acre Hobby Farm at 1061 Philpott Road in Joe Rich and, while it's probably just my age, it feels like I'm working harder now (*in retirement*) than I ever did; though I am enjoying it a lot more and it is definitely a lot more healthy for me.

