

## Barney was One of a Kind, a Tribute from his Hearst Friends

by Ernie Bies Aug. 29, 2020

### Larose, “Barney” Maurice



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of “Barney” Maurice Larose on August 24, 2020 at the age of 76.

Beloved and cherished husband of Louise Larose. They were soul mates from the day they met.

Loving father of Michel (Brigitte) and Stephan (Evelyn).

Loving Grand-father of Derek, Nicholas and Zoe Larose.

Cherished by his step-children, Alain Rochon (Louise), Johanne (Paul) and Tyrone (Theresa)

Predeceased by his father (Roger Larose), mother (Donalda Duguay) and three brothers, Marcel, Roland and Andre.

Survived by his brother Gerald Larose (Diane) and sister Annette Proulx (Fernand)

Barney loved the cottage life and construction work (51 years). He will be remembered for his devotion to family, generosity, sense of humour and strength. He will live forever in our hearts.

Thank you to the staff at the General Hospital for the excellent care and to the staff at Bayshore for the care at home.

Friends may attend a Celebration of Barney’s life at the Garden Chapel of Tubman Funeral Homes, 3440 Richmond Road, Nepean, ON (between Bayshore and Baseline Road)

on Saturday, September 5, 2020 at 11 a.m. **Due to COVID maximum attendance restrictions, pre-registration for the service must be made. Please scroll below to R.S.V.P.**

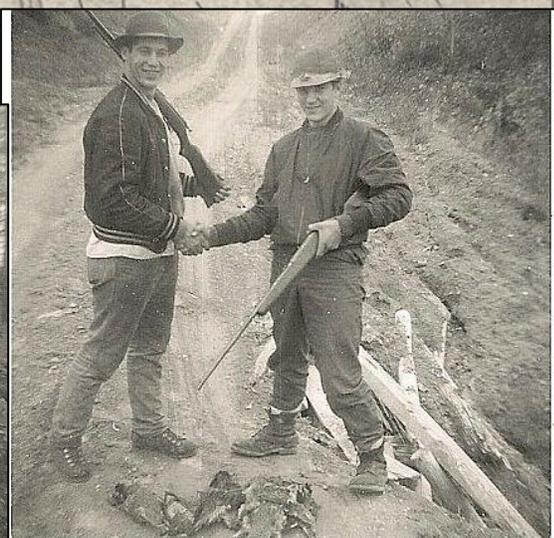
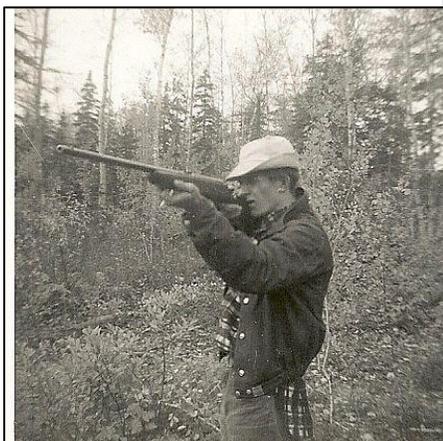
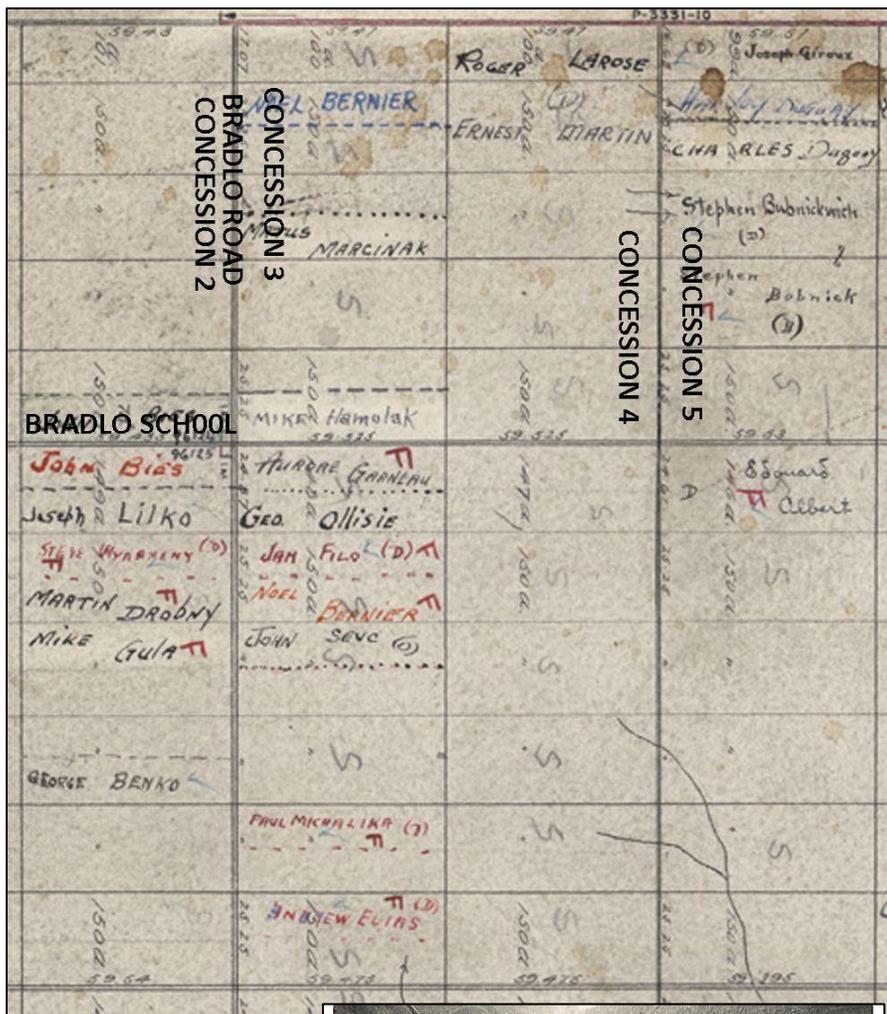
In lieu of flowers, donations to the Canadian Diabetes Association or the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated.

Who is Maurice Larose? Many may not recognize that name but the name "Barney" brings instant recognition and a smile. He was always *Barney*, apparently named after a character in a movie.

His grandfather Charles Duguay, an original settler in Hearst, arrived in about 1912. The family lived in Hazel before moving to a homestead on Concession 5 in Kendall Township, about 4 miles south of Hearst. Some of their neighbours were other Hearst pioneers like Stephen Bubnick, Ernest Martin, Joseph Giroux and E. Joanis. The nearest school was at Bradlo. The Martin, Bubnick and Duguay children attended the Bradlo school with the Slovak Children. My older sisters Olga and Anne were good friends of Muriel Duguay.

Barney's father, Roger Larose, married Donalda Duguay and they also settled on Concession 4/5 to raise their family. Over the years Roger and my dad, John Bies, became very good friends and Roger often visited our farm in Bradlo. Roger worked for the Department of Highways and convinced my father to join him in the mid-1950s. I remember how excited my father was to finally have a salaried, pensionable job. He worked with Roger until he retired.

Barney's cousin Claude Larose lived across the street from Steve Siska in Hearst. Barney, Steve and Claude were best friends and shared many adventures, as in the partridge hunt pictured on the right. Steve is taking aim and Claude and Barney are congratulating each other on a successful hunt.



In 1960, Claude Larose had not made his name yet in the NHL, when Barney met another hockey legend. Barney wrote about this meeting in a submission to Kraft Hockeyville 2009 when the town of Hearst was campaigning to win the prize. *"The Rocket Comes to Dinner*



*Hello; my name is Barney Maurice Larose, I was born and raised in Hearst, I have a story to tell you about Hearst being "Hockeyville", I agree, Hearst is the best hockey town in Canada. Let me tell you a story about the ROCKET RICHARD. When the Rocket was invited to officially open the new Hearst Arena in 1960, he was asked to tour all the schools in the area. My Dad, Roger Larose, was the school board president of the Louisbourg school board and of course he accompanied the Rocket all afternoon. Come supper time no one had booked the Rocket for the evening, so my Dad invited him to join us for dinner at our home which he accepted. When I arrived home after school, I walked into my house to find the Rocket and my Dad enjoying a rye and water in the living room. Being a Habs fan I nearly fell to my knees after meeting the Rocket in my living room. My Mother made a French-Canadian stew for supper of which Mr. Richard had 3 plates as well as I.*

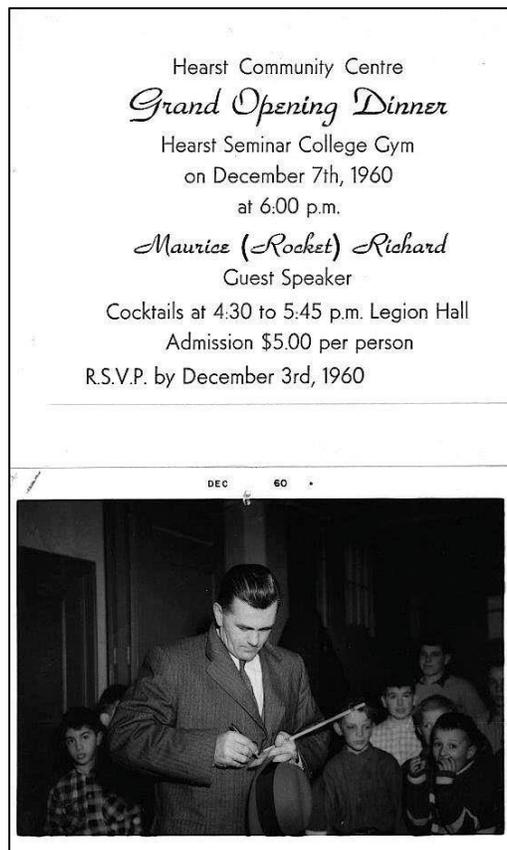
*This was quite the*

*meeting with the Rocket for a sixteen-year-old boy which I will never forget for the rest of my life. We had only seen NHL players on TV and in photos before and heard their names on Hockey Night in Canada. My cousin Claude Larose had just been signed by the Peterborough Petes Junior A club and had not started his NHL career that lasted 17 years.*

*I met the Rocket again at a party in Gatineau in the 70s and I asked him about his visit to Hearst in the 60's and he remembered the meal Mom cooked for him during his visit to Hearst. What a great man. As far as I am concerned this was the best experience of my life.*

*I have included a picture of my father Roger Larose with the Rocket from that day in 1960.*

*Regards, Barney..."*





Barney and Steve left school early to work for the Department of Lands and Forests. I had the pleasure of working with Barney in the summer of 1963 as a student. We were sent out to assist fire boss Bernie Labonté at a forest fire in the Kabina River area where the only access was by helicopter. The chopper landed in a beaver bog and, being the first one out, I eagerly jumped off the pontoon and sank up to my chest. Barney, who was the camp clerk and cook, and the more experienced fire fighters, found high ground and stayed dry. We slept in tents and had our food air-dropped to us. Barney, cooking on a camp stove, had many ways to prepare baloney and beans. There was no rest until the fire was out and then a small crew of smoke spotters was left in camp. Fellow Student Penu Chalykoff and I were tasked with patrolling the fire area looking for any signs of smoldering roots which we put out with shovels and water back-packs. Barney stayed in camp manning the radio and tended to sleep in. One day, Penu and I put all the blankets in camp on him and left him. He said he woke up in a real sweat. This prank was probably not too smart when you consider he cooked our meals.



Later Barney became a town policeman and there are unsubstantiated rumours that he and his OPP colleagues would dispose of confiscated beer their own way. There was only one way to confirm it was real.

Still later he owned the Queens Hotel before it got the better of him and then he headed south to greener pastures.

Barney found employment with the Minto Construction Company in Ottawa building residential units. He quickly rose to the position of foreman and then job superintendent and was sent to supervise jobs in Florida and Edmonton. He returned to Ottawa and was in demand by



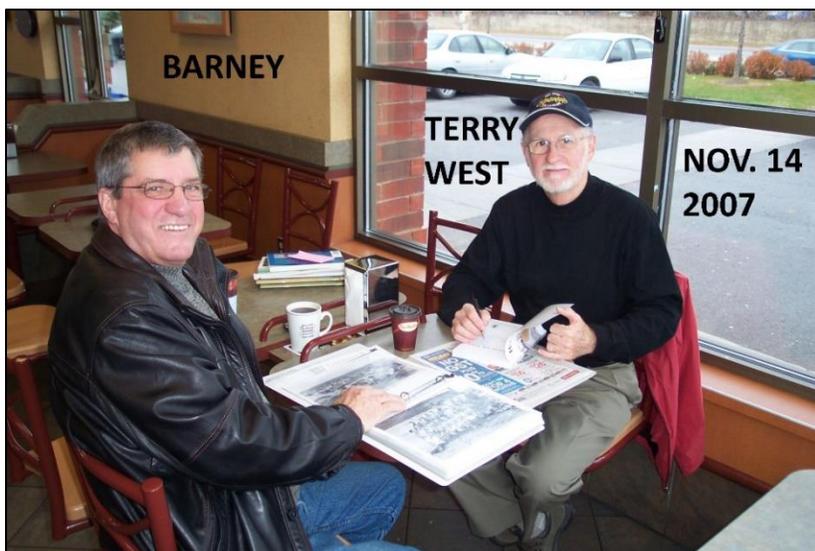
other construction companies working up to the age of 75. He would often point out high rises and apartment buildings he had built in Ottawa including several car dealerships.

We reconnected in Ottawa about 20 years ago as we found ourselves living in Barrhaven, a couple of miles apart, about the same distance as it was from my home in Bradlo to his on Concession 5. Barney made his own sausage and we traded for Arctic Char that I imported from Pangnirtung, Nunavut. I looked forward to his calls fo' coffee.

A group of Hearstites started meeting for breakfast, coffee and attending Ottawa Senator games, especially when the Flyers were in town. In 2008 we had front row seats to see home-town boy, Claude Giroux, lead his Gatineau Olympique to hockey glory winning the Presidents Trophy as the Quebec Junior Hockey League champions.

Barney, Ray and Serge Morissette, Terry West, Ray Alary, Remi Lacasse, Mariette Carrier-Fraser, Jane Ard Boucher, Reynald Morin, the late Denis and Julienne Plouffe and I, were just some of the

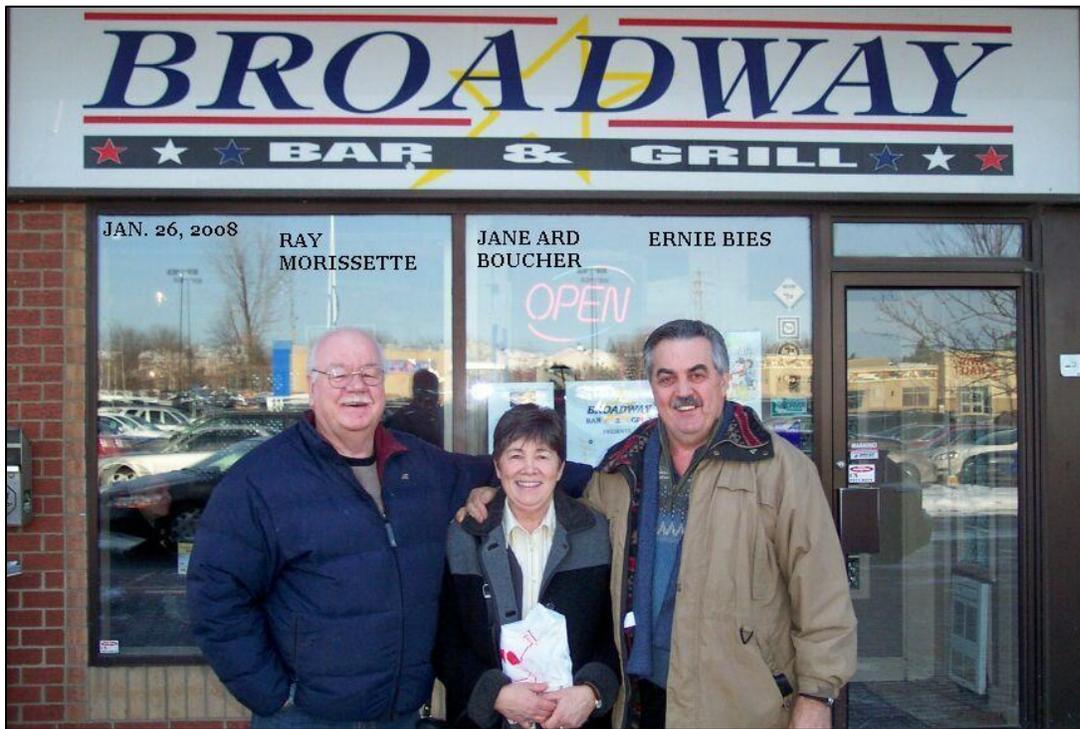
local Hearstites who gathered for coffee at different times and could easily spend 4 or 5 hours catching up. These evolved into the Hearst Café lunches.



Terrence West A sad loss. Barney always lit up the room. How we'll miss his sense of humour and big smile.



2008 Barney slept in and missed the breakfast with Ray and Jane



2009 Barney's 65<sup>th</sup> at Don Cherry's with Reynald "Ti-But" Morin, Steve Siska and Ray Morisette.

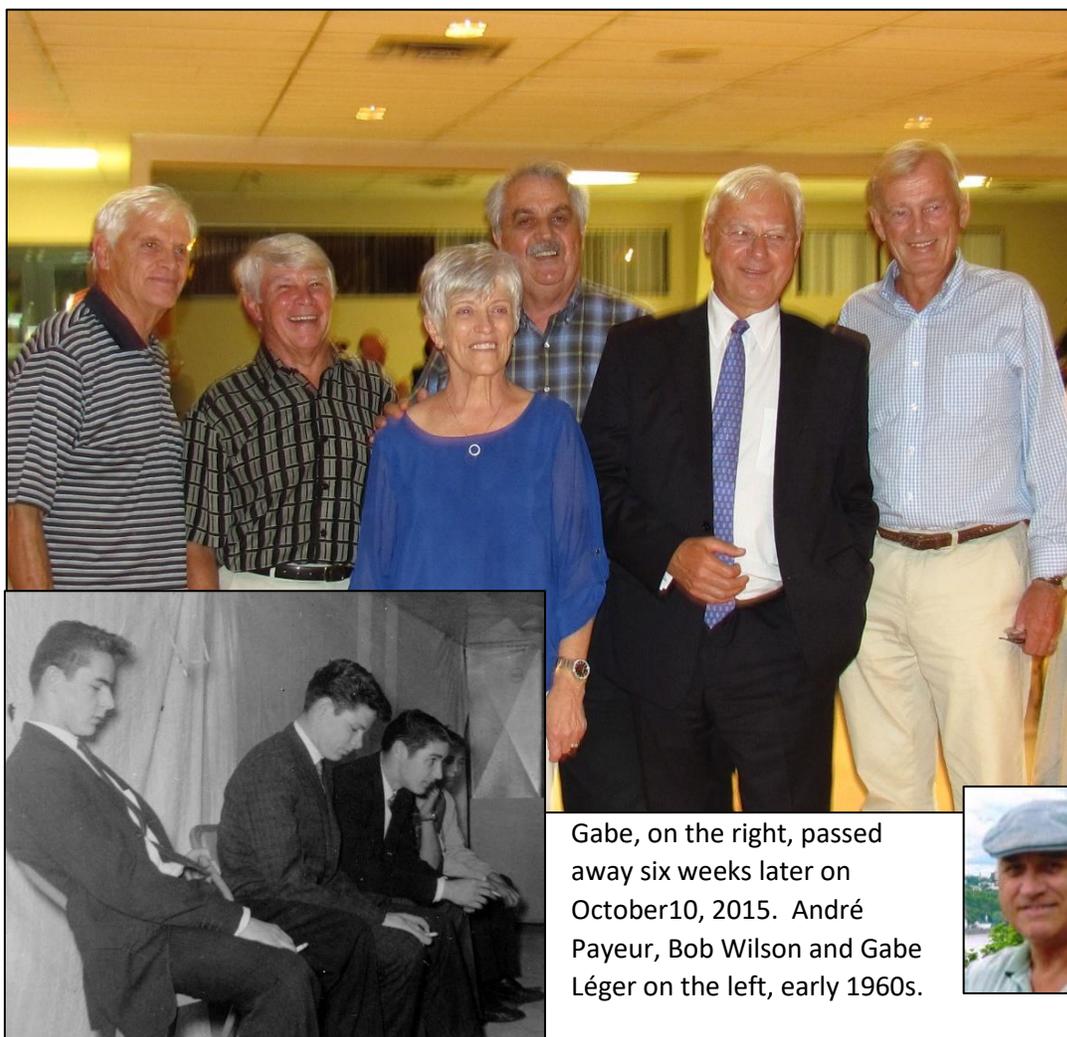
[Stefanie Siska](#) RIP [Barney Larose](#). I'm sure you and my Dad are happy to find each other again. ❤️



2010 Les Gens du Nord at Mother Tuckers, Barney with Remi Lacasse, Louise Larose and Sandy Bies.



Some of Barney's oldest friends at Steve Siska's celebration of life. Left to right, Robert and Ray Wilson, Nicole Siska, Ernie Bies, André Payeur and Jean Tanguay. Aug. 29, 2015. Barney and his good friend, Gabe Léger, had attended the service earlier that day.



Gabe, on the right, passed away six weeks later on October 10, 2015. André Payeur, Bob Wilson and Gabe Léger on the left, early 1960s.

2016 Hearst Café at Perkins Restaurant with Fleurette Fontaine, Barney and RayMo.



2019 Hearst Café at Biggs Deli with Donald Blouin.



As I prepared this tribute to my friend Barney, I realize that just 5 years ago I was doing the same for his best friend, my Slovak brother, Steve Siska. It just reinforces the fact that we must appreciate our friends every day.

I will miss his hearty greeting of "Ernest L'abeille." every time he saw me.

## Memories

There are many tributes on Facebook and I have listed a few below. I have added some matching photos from various Hearst Café lunches that we attended with Barney over the years at happier times. You could always hear his distinctive laugh in the room.

**Aimé Chevrier** Une bien triste nouvelle le décès de Barney Larose. Un vrai bon gars, toujours de bonne humeur et toujours avec une farce. À Hearst au HHS, je l'ai moins connu-notre différence d'âge et différents amis- cependant lors de nos rencontres dans le contexte des réunions des anciens de Hearst dans notre région, j'ai eu l'occasion de le connaître et surtout de l'apprécier. Il va nous manquer beaucoup. Sincères sympathies à toute sa famille.



**Henriette Chevrier Jones** Sincere condolences to the Larose family. I met Barney through Hearst luncheon gatherings here in Ottawa. Very nice person, we will miss him.

**Raymond Claude Alary** C'est avec émoi que Huguette se joint à moi pour vous souhaiter nos plus sincères condoléances.

Four Rays on the right. Alary, Vermette, Wilson and Morissette along with André Payeur.



**Armand Payeur** Sincères sympathies à toute la famille. RIP Barney!

**Ingrid Dahlin** Condolences to his family. I knew Barney from my Hearst Days. We rode on the same school bus.

**Roger Sigouin** condolences to the family Larose (Mayor of Hearst)

**Timoon Toonoo** Condolences to you Michel Larose and to rest of your family. (Mayor of Cape Dorset, Nunavut - a longtime friend of mine)

**Yolande Cowie** Mes Sympathie a toute la famille

**Jonathan Turner** Condolences to the family

**Douglas Rosevear** My condolences to the family.

**Elena Bosnick Petrich** So sorry we lost him...

**Lynn Carrier** My sympathies to the family

**SuzanneProulx RichardLarose** RIP dear cousin - My sincere condolences to the family. Cousin Richard Larose and Ray Giroux on right



**Mike Wilson** Nos plus sincères sympathies à la famille Larose. RIP Barney.

**Marielle Skille** My sincere sympathy to family and loved ones. RIP **Barney Larose**...have fond memories Hearst High School!

**Therese Begin** My condolences to the Larose family

**Tom Garnett** My condolences to family and friends.

**King Begin** My sympathy to the Barney Larose Family R. I. P. Maurice.

**Pierrette McDonald** Our deepest sympathy to Barney's family and friends.

**Julienne Trudel** Sincères condoléances à toute la famille!

Pictures on the right show

Mike and Diane Wilson

Therese Begin and Jane Ard Boucher

Late cousin (d2018) Dolly Duguay  
Boisvert and Blanche Doucet below

The Moris7 brothers, Ray and Serge.



THE PARTRIDGE HUNT, starring Barney Larose, Claude Larose and Steve Siska (white hat)

