



NEWANS – Byran “Mel” Newans passed away suddenly at his home with his beloved wife, Cathie at his side. He was 74 years of age. Byran was born on October 14, 1947 in Avonlea, Saskatchewan to Roy and Della (nee Junior) Newans. Mel was raised with his siblings in Avonlea and in his late teen years decided to leave his family and home in Avonlea in order to join the Royal Canadian Air Force. Mell served in the RCAF and

while serving he met Cathie in 1979. In 1980, Mel and Cathie along with their two oldest sons moved to Yorkton. It was in Yorkton where Mel and Cathie raised their five children while Mel was employed as the City of Yorkton Fire Chief. Mel retired from his position with the Fire Hall in 2000. While serving as Chief, Mel’s position in regard to the City of Yorkton’s choice of colour for the firetrucks was abundantly clear as he always stated that, “I despise yellow firetrucks with a passion.” Mel was an accomplished but humble man; people generally knew where he stood on an issue. He coached both baseball and hockey. He loved being a dad and loved being a grandpa even more. Mel leaves to celebrate his life his beloved wife, Cathie; and his children, Chris, Troy, Mark, Kenneth, Katelynne, and their families. A service in Celebration of Life was held on Tuesday November 30, 2021 at 10:00 AM from St. Gerard’s Roman Catholic Church, Yorkton with Reverend Father Louis Kim Nguyen serving as the Celebrant with Mel’s children serving as the urnbearers and his grand-daughter, Meghan serving as the Crossbearer. The first reading was from Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 with the second reading from 1 John 3:1-2, and the Gospel Lesson was from the book of John 12:1-6. Retired and actively serving firefighters of the City of Yorkton and other Saskatchewan locations formed a Guard of Honour in tribute and respect for Chief Mel Newans. Chris Fisher, accompanied by the members of the St. Gerard’s Parish choir sang the hymns, “Morning Has Broken”, “Day is Done”, “You Are Near”, “Song of the Angels”, and “I Believe in the Son”. Those so wishing to make a contribution in memory of the Late Byran Newans may do so with a Mass Offering. Kopan’s Funeral Service, Highway #9 North, Yorkton is honoured to have been entrusted with funeral arrangements.