REMEMBERING

Trevor Gary Winter

Trevor Gary Winter, affectionately known to everyone as “Buddha,” took his final breath on September 28, 2026, passing away at the Cowichan District Hospital after a brief but brutal battle with cancer. He was surrounded by his loving family, who were in turn surrounded by a loving crowd of their closest friends.

Growing up in Duncan, Buddha was a natural athlete who excelled in every sport. He especially loved to play baseball and hockey, playing some junior hockey at Kerry Park. He was always a tough competitor and an even better teammate. As an adult, this was amplified when he became a valued member of the Shooters, which was once a competitive hockey team, but now more resembles a band of brothers who have forged lifelong friendships and have intertwined families. Buddha was also the revered pitcher for the Jakes softball team, where another bunch of misfits created some forever memories together. He extended his team first philosophy into his years of coaching as his sons took up their own athletic careers growing up, offering a level-headed, nurturing approach that focused on team-bonding and honing true athletic skill.

Buddha also loved to fish, watch sports, listen to music, and socialise with his many friends (as long as they refrained from talking about work; “no shop talk” was his rule). He had buddies from all sorts of different pockets of his life and made sure they each felt equally important. He kept a busy social calendar with fishing getaways to Renfrew, dinner parties, and his epic annual golf trip. He loved his home. He loved to manicure his lawn, smoke his famous candied salmon, and host dinner parties. His one true superpower was that he had an incredible memory. If you asked him if he remembered a particular event, he could recall every useless specific detail. The only time his memory seemed to fail him was when he was jotting down his strokes on his golf score card.

When he wasn’t busy having fun, Buddha was a familiar, smiling fixture in the community. As a long-time worker for the City of Duncan, he truly loved his job. When operating the city grader, or posing on a shovel, he never missed an

opportunity to flash a big smile, give a big wave and shout a friendly hello to every single passerby.

Of all his achievements and loves, Buddha's absolute greatest was his family. He leaves behind his beloved wife, saviour and sparring partner, Julie (aka Juice), and their two sons, Max and Jake. Buddha was a fantastic dad; actively involved in all their sports and activities as they grew. And boy, did they grow! Buddha, a fiercely proud father, was always standing tall (but shorter) alongside his two very large sons. The three were close. They loved to fish, golf, camp and hang out together.

He also leaves behind his adoring mom, Maureen, who cheered him on through every stage of life along with his Dad, Gary, who predeceased him in 2018. Buddha spent his years learning from Gary, and eventually emulating Gary's immense passion for fishing, woodworking and generally doing things right. He was meticulous. Some say anal, but you didn't read that here.

In his final days, Buddha mentioned that he wanted two things: 1. He wanted his celebration to be a party; 2. He wanted his ashes to be spread with his Dad. So, in lieu of tears, lets tip some beers and celebrate a life well-lived. And the next time you are in Renfrew, you can say hi to the legendary Buddha who has been reunited with his old man, where the family has enjoyed so much of their life.

The family asks that you drop in and celebrate the Buddha at the Craig Street Brewpub on October 25th, 2026, between 4 and 8. We want to swap stories, offer hugs, and be sure to party together like Trevor Winter wanted.