



Erin MacFadyen Chiasson
1971-2009

Erin passed away at age 38 years, after a year long battle with cancer. Beloved wife of Stephen Chiasson, Cape Breton, and mother of Ryan, and Dylan. Cherished daughter of Barbara MacMillan and Archie (Diane) MacFadyen. Sister of Carrie MacFadyen and Patrick MacFadyen (Tammi Jo Auld), Cornwall. Special aunt to Cornwall residents Charlotte, Simon, Rachel, and Laura.

The Terry Fox Sports Complex was developed while Erin's brother Patrick was Mayor of Cornwall and the street the Complex is located was named Erin Court in her honour.

Erin was a feisty child. She had blonde hair and didn't let anyone push her around. She was very pretty but very tough as well. Both qualities she carried with her throughout her life. Erin lived in a very happy home. Her mom was a wonderful stay at home mom and devoted her life to her children, and her Dad worked hard to provide everything his children needed. Erin grew up in Cornwall and the neighborhood had several children the same age who lived close by. Erin would spend her childhood outside playing with friends in a wonderful, close community. In those days, in this community, it would be the norm to go off with your friends for hours and only return home to eat. Erin would live this lifestyle from the age of 5 right through until 16. Her close friends at that time were all people who lived nearby.

Erin was lucky to have a family cottage in Fortune, Prince Edward Island. She would spend her summers there where she had a new group of friends. The cottage was small but very close to two beautiful beaches. This is where Erin's love of the water and swimming was born. A large part of Erin's summers growing up were spent at the cottage.

At school Erin really did shine. She was a very strong student. She was President of the student council at East Wiltshire Junior High and received the Principals award for overall best student through her three years there.

Erin had a lot of school spirit and besides being a great student also had a deep appreciation of sports. She wasn't the greatest athlete but did try hard and had a lot of determination. A lot of Erin's extracurricular time was based around music. Erin was a talented piano player and took lessons from a young age. Her favorite times were the family tradition of playing the piano as the family sang Christmas carols every Christmas Eve.

Erin was one of a couple of girls chosen to be a cheerleader at Bluefield High School in grade 10, and later became co- captain of the team in grade 12. There were over 15 girls on the team and they were a constant fixture at the hockey games that always played to a sell-out crowd at the North River Rink.

During the summers Erin worked mostly as a lifeguard at the Cornwall pool, but one summer she worked and lived in Cavendish with her best friend Tammy. She worked at Pizza Delight as a waitress. It was exciting for young people to leave home and live at the campground in Cavendish.

After high school Erin went to Fanshawe College in London Ontario with her friend Tammy. She took Journalism but realized it wasn't what she wanted to do. She then came back to the Island and went to UPEI . She finished her degree in Public Administration and shortly after with some friends moved to Alberta.

In Alberta she worked at different jobs mostly as an admin assistant. The jobs weren't high paying but she was young and had roommates and as long as she saved enough money to come home for a visit at Christmas and in the summer she was happy. Erin was very careful with her money and it was an important skill during this time in her life. Erin would come home and she always had several friends that wanted to spend time with her. It was a difficult challenge to make everyone happy. Her family did get to see her, but she also liked going out with friends since she hadn't seen them in so long. The one person that always got special attention when she came home was her niece Charlotte. Erin would be constantly buying Charlotte presents and clothes and sending them home. Erin had a special place in her heart for Charlotte, who was the first baby in the MacFadyen family.

One of her jobs in Calgary was to work in the office at a flight school. While she was working at this job she and her roommates decided to go their separate ways and she was looking for someone to move in with. She had heard that there was a student at the flight school with whom she knew a little bit, that was also looking for a place. This is how the relationship started with the love of her life "Stephen". Stephen was everything that Erin always wanted in a partner. He was smart, strong, big and best of all he was from the East Coast. Stephen and Erin moved in together and although they started out as just friends things started to take off when they realized everything they had in common.

Early on in their relationship they still didn't have much money but Erin was always very happy. Erin then worked a better job in investments, and then finally landed her job with the Federal Government. At this job she used her education and quickly moved up the ranks and started to be able to afford the life she deserved. Her top priority for travel was still to come home to Cornwall and visit her family and friends.

It was during this time that the greatest accomplishment in Erin's life came to fruition. Erin became a mother. Ryan was born and this changed everything. Erin's purpose in life was to

protect and be a mother for Ryan, and life revolved around him. Ryan was smart and sweet and everything Erin wanted in a child. She now had her family.

Erin was now living the life she had always dreamed of. She had a good job, she had a beautiful home, and more importantly she was a loving wife and mother. Even though Erin didn't believe she could love anyone like she loved her baby boy Ryan, she had another baby boy and quickly learned that Dylan was just as special. Like Erin, Dylan was the second born, beautiful blonde hair and not afraid to stand up for himself. A carbon copy in boy form!

Dylan made the family complete and Erin continued her job as being the best mom on the planet. Birthday parties, Christmas, and family outings had Erin in her glory. Erin was great on the phone and was very curious how everyone at home was doing and great at updating us on what was happening in Calgary. On one special trip home that Erin really loved, the Chiasson family stayed at a cottage on the south shore and introduced Dylan to PEI. All the kids played together. This trip was reserved for family only and everyone took advantage of the time. This is when Erin's boys got to know their second home "PEI".

It was shortly after this trip that we heard the devastating news. Erin was sick. The news was a shock to everyone and we have still never gotten over it. Erin fought hard for a year, but in the end there was nothing anyone could do. All of Erin's family made a trip at separate times to visit Erin in Calgary.

Erin had a wonderful life. She had a great childhood, and she had a close family in Cornwall that loved her dearly. She was a special person who touched a lot of people, and she is greatly missed. She was beautiful, and funny. She was smart and caring. She was everything you could ever want in a mother, wife, sister, and daughter. We are blessed to hold a piece of Erin through her children and her life will live on through them.