



Pip Rudkin passed away on March 14 in the early morning – he went peacefully, simply closing his eyes. Know that he was very much at peace with what was happening and had a calm and clarity about it. He was surrounded by his family and while unable to speak in his last couple of days, he communicated with his eyes (those big bushy eyebrows), nodding his head and squeezing your hand – he was very aware and lucid to the end. He had no pain and he simply squeezed my hand and nodded his head when I said I will get us a coffee and get him ready for when the kids came over. He smiled, I walked away from the bed and felt him leave – he closed eyes and went to a better place where it is always warm: on a sailboat in the Caribbean or Valhalla.

He lived life on his terms and went out that way – as he wanted. He will be missed by all who knew him – he always left an impression and he was always humbled by all those who respected him or were supportive during these past 5 years – as he was having fun doing what he wanted – his way. When you think of him - you should hear in the background the songs ‘Sailing’ or ‘My Way’.

He lived, he loved, lead a storied life and escaped death on more than one occasion – it was with vigor and no regrets – his favorite expression with regard to his past adventures – ‘it sounded like a good idea at the time’.

He was truly a Pirate 200 years too late and like Peter Pan – he was the boy who never grew up – that was his approach to life!

We are truly grateful for having been part of his life and I take my peace from having ensured that he lived these last years with dignity, as active as was possible and that his final days were in comfort at home surrounded by the few things he held dear and surrounded by his family and he had no pain and left our lives in the best way he could possibly could have – HIS WAY.

A celebration of Pip's life was held on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Swiler's Rugby Club.

Provincial Aerospace posted a tribute to Pip on their website.

The next time you are near the Atlantic Ocean, say hello to Pip, the sound of the waves will be his reply.

Leah McGroggan  
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