

Owner of King City's Hogan's Inn Bob Rose passes away

By Mark Pavilons

The warm and welcoming owner of one of King Township's landmarks has died.

Robert "Bob" Rose, owner of the historic Hogan's Inn in King City, passed away at Princess Margaret Hospital, surrounded by family Feb. 8. He was 75.

Mr. Rose had an accomplished career in the financial sector, but it was Hogan's Inn that he seemed most proud of. He was as charming and hospitable as his prized establishment itself, something he referred to as "a unique piece of property and history" not only for King but for visitors far and wide.

He was extremely proud of the award-winning Hogan's, stressing "it's like nowhere else."

King Mayor Steve Pellegrini extended his condolences to the Rose family. He said most evenings you could see Mr. Rose's smiling face dining in his own establishment. He was always very pleasant and cordial and he will be missed.

Thanks to Mr. Rose's efforts, "everyone knows about Hogan's Inn," the mayor pointed out.

Couples and families shared stories and anecdotes of visits to Hogan's with Mr. Rose over the years. He welcomed visitors from the U.K., U.S. and even Australia who found Hogan's atmosphere warm and inviting.

Mr. Rose loved the people of King and enjoyed sharing small talk with regulars and families who frequented the restaurant. He was a modern day entrepreneur, but he loved the history and ambiance of his favourite eatery.

Hogan's and its owner helped make local history.

He will be lovingly remembered by his children Craig, Wendy and her husband Brian O'Leary, and Jordan and his wife Melissa; and their mother Mary Lou. Loving grandfather of Connor and Elissa. Dear son of the late Frederick, and step-son of Catherine "Cal" Rose.

Known for introducing himself as a tall good-looking fellow with glasses and a great athlete who has a body of an 18-year-old, he enjoyed life and the people who surrounded him daily. A well-respected Bay Street boy, he loved to work more than anything else and would become totally engaged with the people and companies that he became involved with. Mr. Rose could be described as larger than life with a certain flare for fashion and with an exuberant personality. Always generous to those in need and able to call a spade a spade, he will be remembered as a great trader and fair businessman, and a wonderful provider for his family.

During his final days, Mr. Rose met the challenges of his medical condition with great fight, courage and dignity. He will be missed and remembered with much love.

A celebration of Mr. Rose's life will be held at the Design Exchange, 234 Bay St., Toronto Feb. 27 at 3 p.m. Details are available on Mr. Rose's memorial at www.turnerporter.ca

For family and close friends, a funeral will be held at All Saints' Anglican Church, 12935 Keele St., King City, today (Thursday) at 1 p.m., followed by interment at King City Cemetery.

In Mr. Rose's memory, memorial donations may be made to Bridgepoint Foundation

