

BRUCE HARALD WADE

Bruce was born on August 23, 1960 in Montreal and passed away in Halifax on February 5, 2026. He grew up in Ottawa with parents William and Aileen and sisters Shelley and Heather. However, he always was a Maritimer at heart and spent much time with his maternal grandparents, Wilbur and Isabel Sabeau, in Weymouth, Nova Scotia. His attraction to the sea grew and eventually led him to establish a home in Cow Bay, Nova Scotia.

Bruce was predeceased by his beloved wife Martha (nee Ackerman). He also was a devoted and much-loved Uncle to his sister Shelley Nauss' three adult children: Justin, Isabel, and Emily. They were deeply bonded with Bruce and are the ones who will carry into the future his legacy.

Bruce attended St. Lawrence College in Cornwall, Ontario, graduating in 1982 from three-year diploma programs in Marine Engineering Technology and in Mechanical Engineering. His list of specialized professional qualifications, certificates and diplomas is long and varied.

On completion of his formal education, he began an exceptional 40-year career as an engineer on a variety of marine vessels and sailed to many parts of the world. However, he especially enjoyed his re-supply voyages into the Canadian Arctic. Bruce served as Chief Engineer for thirty-two of his 40-year lengthy career! Moreover, his personal sea log shows that his total hours at sea equaled 22 years!

Bruce enjoyed two hobbies that connected him with special communities. He started building model railroad systems in his childhood. Besides maintaining an elaborate system in his own basement, he also worked closely with the IWK Children's Hospital in Halifax in maintaining and improving their model railroad system - and he enjoyed interacting with young patient-enthusiasts!

Amateur radio was the other hobby, and the most intensively pursued. Bruce received his Amateur Radio Certification in 1976 and operated with the call sign, VE1NB. He was a highly proficient CW (Morse code) operator.

Bruce often established a small amateur radio station aboard the ships on which he served and communicated with his close amateur radio friends in Halifax as well as other operators around the world.

When Bruce was ashore and at home, he was active as a member of the Halifax and Dartmouth Amateur Radio Clubs - HARC and DARC. Upon retirement he became deeply involved in many club activities and was the Second Vice President of HARC at the time of his death. One of his most significant activities was in helping establish amateur radio stations in the radio rooms of the two museum ships, the CSS Acadia and the HMCS Sackville, docked behind the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic on the Halifax waterfront.

He and other club members activated these amateur radio stations to participate in global radio events, including especially Museum *Ships on-the-Air*. All of this fit so well with Bruce's love of the sea, mastery of technology and commitment to communities that meant so much to him.

Bruce commanded the deepest respect and admiration of ship mates as a very gifted engineer, a highly skilled and effective leader, and a quietly compassionate human being.

He carried these same qualities into his activities as an amateur radio operator and club member. He was always there to help and once a task was identified, he did not slow down his efforts until the task was completed. Moreover, he brought an immense skill set to any task he undertook.

Bruce had wonderful capacity for friendship and was always attentive and considerate of everyone he encountered. Despite what he might be struggling with, Bruce never complained.

He is deeply missed and will never be forgotten.

We love you, Bruce.

Prepared by
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