



The Final Face-Off - 2019

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During 2019, the hockey community lost a number of Manitobans as well as people with a connection to the sport in our province. Also included are earlier deaths not mentioned previously or brought to our attention. The Information has been compiled from newspaper obituaries and other sources such as the Internet and the Society for International Hockey Research. Individual members of the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame (MHFF) are noted with an asterisk*.

May 17, 2018 in London, ON. - **Wayne Winstone, 78** - Played junior with the Winnipeg Braves from 1956-57 to 1958-59 when the team won the Canadian junior championship.

Nov. 11, 2018 in Tucson, Arizona - **Dr. Andy Lillie, 87** - All-around athlete in Winnipeg who played minor hockey with the West End Orioles and Sir John Franklin. Played recreational hockey into his fifties in the States including playing several years in the Senior Olympics tournament in Santa Rosa, Cal.

Dec. 6, 2018 in Toronto - **Gerry Cariou, 86** - Played junior for the Winnipeg Canadians in 1950-51 and the Black Hawks in 1951-52.

Jan. 4, 2019 in Winnipeg - **Laurie Pollard, 90** - Served on the board of the Winnipeg Jets Hockey Club in 1974.

Jan. 5 in Selkirk - **Bert Sandercock, 93** - Played for a Swan Lake provincial B championship team in 1943 and for the Agriculture team at the University of Manitoba.

Jan. 11 in Red Deer, AB - **Metro Lekopoy, 82** - Served as referee-in-chief in Flin Flon and officiated Bombers games in the Western Canada Hockey League.

Jan. 13 in Calgary - **Omer Brandt, 92** - Swan Lake native who played from 1950-51 to 1952-53 with the Colorado College Tigers.

Jan. 14 in Kelowna, BC - **Herb Schiller, 87** - Played for junior Winnipeg Black Hawks in 1949-50 and then two seasons with the Flin Flon Bombers of the SJHL. Spent one season with Glace Bay in the Maritimes followed by time in the IHL and EHL.

Jan. 23 in Winnipeg - **Jake Scheirich, 85** - Greater Winnipeg Minor Hockey Association referee in the late 1950s and 1960s.

Jan. 29 in Portland, OR - ***Andy Hebenton, 89** - Played junior for the Winnipeg Canadians in 1948-49 and then went on to a 26-year pro career that included nine seasons in the NHL. Set the then NHL Ironman record of 630 consecutive games and won the Lady Byng Trophy in 1957-58. Played many seasons in the WHL with Victoria and Portland. MHFF 1985.

Jan. 30 in Calgary - **Allan LeBlanc, 80** - A member of the 1959 Canadian junior champion Winnipeg Braves and a member of the 1961-62 Marathon Mercuries national intermediate champions.



Jan. 30 in Winnipeg - ***Bob Picken, 86** - Sports broadcaster, who had served as secretary of the Winnipeg midget hockey league for five seasons, and covered the game at all levels including Canada's National Team and the junior, WHA and NHL Winnipeg Jets. MHHF 2011.

Jan. 31 in Calgary - **Jack O'Brien, 92** - Nicknamed Panda Jack for his rambunctious play with the University of Minnesota Gold from 1945-46 to 1948-49.

Feb. 7 in Calgary - **Allan Johnson, 84** - Played three seasons with the St. Boniface Canadians of the MJHL including 1952-53 when the team lost in the Canadian final and a fourth year of junior with Trois-Rivieres of the Quebec league. His 10 years of pro included time in the NHL with the Montreal Canadiens and Detroit Red Wings. Won the Allan Cup with the Winnipeg Maroons in 1964.

Feb. 11 in Winnipeg - **Jim Burns, 89** - In 1974 he was a prime mover in the citizen-funded Save the Jets campaign.

Feb. 21 in Winnipeg - **Richard Panson, 77** - Played for the St. Boniface Canadiens of the MJHL in 1959-60.

Feb. 21 - **Gerry Rafter, 76** - Churchill-born, he played for Weyburn in the SJHL in 1961-62 followed by five seasons in the EHL.

Feb. 22 in Alberta - **Don Chambers, 82** - Weston product who officiated minor and major junior in the city.

Feb. 24 in Rossland, B.C. - **Bill Vickers, 95** - Member of Canadian junior champion Winnipeg Rangers in 1943. Played for the Port Arthur Navy the next season and with the Nelson Maple Leafs of the Western International Hockey League from 1945-46 to 1949-50.

March 5 in Winnipeg - **Mitch Duncan, 56** - Played for the Fort Garry Blues of the MJHL in 1981-82 and 1982-83 followed by two seasons in the British 2nd Division with the Crowtree Chiefs where he had 150 and 152 points.

March 14 in Winnipeg - **Randy Turner, 57** - *Winnipeg Free Press* reporter, who covered hockey during his career and wrote two books about the Winnipeg Jets titled *Back in the Bigs* and *The First Season*.

March 17 in Round Lake, NY - **John Halme, 69** - Winnipeg-born, he played for Clarkson University from 1968-69 through 1970-71 and later coached in New York State.

March 17 in Winnipeg - **Jack Armstrong, 82** - Volunteer with the Winnipeg and St. Vital minor hockey associations.

March 30 in Calgary - **Bill Short, 85** - Played junior with the Winnipeg Canadians and the St. Boniface Canadiens including the 1952-53 Memorial Cup finalists. Spent several seasons in the IHL with the Fort Wayne Komets and the Indianapolis Chiefs.

April 5 in Brandon - **Dave Kowal, 62** - Public address announcer for sports in the Westman region including AAA hockey.

April 10 in Selkirk - **Orval Gower, 93** - For many years beginning in 1971 he held several positions with the Selkirk Steelers junior hockey team including the team that won the Centennial Cup in 1973-74.



April 26 in Burnaby, BC - ***Bruce Carmichael, 85** - Another member of the 1952-53 Canadian junior hockey finalist St. Boniface Canadiens, who went on to a 20-year career in pro hockey primarily in the WHL where he became one of the league's top scorers. Later coached the Coquitlam Comets junior team and ran hockey schools in B.C. MHHF 1997.

May 8 in Winnipeg - **Frank (Smiley) Krivak, 83** - Played for the provincial juvenile champion Winnipeg Monarchs in 1952-53 and junior with the Monarchs in 1954-56 and 1955-56 and then the Prince Albert Mintos of the SJHL in 1955-56.

May 11 in Winnipeg - **Milt Carrigan, 90** - Played in 1949-50 with Falkirk Lions in Scotland.

May 18 in Selkirk - **John Morrison, 85** - Played for the junior Brandon Wheat Kings in 1952-53 and 1953-54, with the University of North Dakota in 1956-57 and later with the Selkirk Fishermen intermediates.

May 19 - **Carter Zailuski, 23** - Played for Winnipeg Sharks midgets for two seasons, then with the Neepawa Natives of the MJHL in 2012-13 followed by two seasons with the Pembina Valley Twisters of the MMJHL.

May 21 in Uxbridge, Ont. - **Cliff Frame, 85** - Born in Russell, he played for the junior Trail Smoke Eaters and then with University of British Columbia in 1952-53.

May 28 in Nelson, B.C. - **Cam McCallum, 96** - Goalie with the Edmonton Athletic Club in 1940-41 and the junior Winnipeg Monarchs in 1941-42.

May 29 in Winnipeg - **Ron Taylor Jr., 74** - Played at West End Orioles and then for the Winnipeg Rangers in the MJHL in 1962-63.

May 29 in Winnipeg - **John Manchester, 76** - Played in the SJHL with Flin Flon in 1960-61 and 1961-62 and the Estevan Bruins in 1962-63., and then five seasons with the Kimberley Dynamiters of the WIHL and several more with the Transcona Turbos.

June 16 near Oakbank - **Cam Johnson, 15** - Played the 2018-19 season with the Eastman AA Knights, who won their league championship.

June 17 in Winnipeg - **Cam Brock, 79** - Played junior with the Winnipeg Monarchs in 1958-59 and the next season with the Monarchs and the Winnipeg Rangers. Coached minor hockey at the Northwood, Orioles and Fort Garry community clubs and for the Red River Community College Rebels.

June 18 in Calgary - **Hank Lawson, 89** - Goalie with junior Guelph Biltmore Madhatters in 1947-48, and with the Winnipeg Canadians the next season, and with the Selkirk Fishermen in 1949-50.

June 25 in Winnipeg - **Gord Pollreis, 72** - Coached from the minor to junior level in Winnipeg for 30 years.

June 27 in Winnipeg - **Milt McLean, 80** - Served on the board of the Winnipeg Jets in the early years of the WHA.

July 10 in Omaha - **Emmanuel (Motto) McLean, 93** - Played for the Winnipeg Monarchs in 1943-44 followed by 12 pro seasons. Coached the Flin Flon Bombers of the SJHL in 1957-58 and 1958-59.



July 11 in Kelowna - ***Gordon Simpson, 91** - Played for the Winnipeg Monarchs from 1946-47 to 1948-49 followed by senior hockey in Toronto and the Maritimes. Returned home to play for and coach the senior Winnipeg Maroons. Coach during the 1964 Allan Cup winning season and the next year coached the combined Maroons/Canada National team in the World Championship. MHHF 1997.

July 12 in Brandon - **Randy Hextall, 66** - Member of the Portage la Prairie Terriers from 1970-71 to 1972-73 when the team won the Centennial Cup emblematic of the Canadian junior A championship.

July 16 in Regina - **Don Wishart, 85** - Portage la Prairie native who played with the Flin Flon Bombers of the SJHL from 1951-52 to 1953-54. Spent three seasons with the Colorado College Tigers captaining the team to the NCAA championship in 1957, and two with the senior Regina Caps.

July 21 in Winnipeg - **John Gray, 80** - Played at the University of North Dakota from 1959-60 to 1961-62.

Aug. 8 in Victoria, B.C. - **Les Strongman, 94** - Played junior for the St. James Canadians in 1941-42. Career in the United Kingdom primarily with the Nottingham Panthers and in Sweden ran from 1946-47 to 1967-68.

Aug. 9 in Flin Flon - **Dale Dixon, 79** - Played for the Flin Flon Bombers of the SJHL in 1957-58 followed by intermediate hockey in the community.

Late Aug. in Winnipeg - **Tim Jeffrey, 62** - Helped organize the Golden Boy Tournament for the Winnipeg Minor Hockey Association and served as the Association's suspension director.

Sept. 2 in Victoria - **Dave Parenteau, 74** - Wakaw, Sask. product who played for the Melville Millionaires and Flin Flon Bombers of the SJHL in 1963-64 and 1964-65 leading the league in scoring in the second season. Played pro from 1965-66 to 1971-72 in the WHL, IHL and EHL.

Sept. 20 in Winnipeg - **Ron Kirbyson, 82** - Served on the boards for the River Heights Community Centre and the Assiniboine Park Hockey Association.

Sept. 21 in Winnipeg - **Ken Hall, 81** - Longtime goal judge for the Selkirk Steelers of the MJHL.

Oct. 8 in Edmonton - ***Ted Green, 79** - Played in the NHL with the Boston Bruins from 1961-62 to 1971-72 and in the WHA for the next seven seasons with the New England Whalers and the Winnipeg Jets. Played junior for the St. Boniface Canadiens and was a pickup with the 1959 Memorial Cup champion Winnipeg Braves. MHHF 1985.

Oct. 11 in St. Pierre, MB - **Larry Friesen, 71** - Played for the Grunthal Red Wings of the Hanover-Tache League.

Oct. 16 in Winnipeg - **John Rodger, 79** - Played for St. Boniface Canadiens from 1957-58 to 1959-60 and was picked up by the Winnipeg Braves for the team's Memorial Cup run in 1959. Led the SJHL in scoring with the Estevan Bruins in 1960-61. Pro career from 1961-62 to 1972-73 included time in the EPHL, AHL, WHL and EHL.



Oct. 17 in Winnipeg - **Guy Lash, 62** - Played in the MJHL with the St. Boniface Saints in 1973-74 and then two seasons in the WHL with the Winnipeg Clubs and Monarchs. Played pro in the IHL, CHL and in Germany until 1980-81.

Oct. 25 in Winnipeg - **Terry Ross, 69** - Goalie who played at the University of Winnipeg and in the CASH League with the St. Boniface Mohawks and East Kildonan Millionaires.

Oct. 25 in Winnipeg - **Ethan Boyer, 19** - Played for the AAA Interlake Lightning bantams and the Arborg Ice Dawgs of the Capitol Region Junior Hockey League.

Oct. 26 in Salt Spring Island, B.C. - **Bill Lutyne, 87** - Winnipeg-born goalie who played in the Western Canada Junior Hockey League with the Lethbridge Native Sons, Medicine Hat Tigers and Crow's Nest Pass Coalers in 1951-52 and 1952-53 and the next season in the Alberta-Montana Intermediate League.

Oct. 31 in B.C. - **Brian English, 75** - Played junior for the Winnipeg Braves in 1962-63 and 1963-64 and was a member of the 1965 University of Manitoba Bisons team that won the Canadian university championship.

Nov. 4 in Winnipeg - **Dick Paulley, 84** - Played junior for the Winnipeg Barons in 1952-53 and 1953-54. Outstanding official in Winnipeg minor and junior hockey including time as a referee in the early days of the Western Canada Junior Hockey League.

Nov. 9 in Houston, TX - **Don Larway, 65** - Born in Oak Lake, he played junior for the Dauphin Kings of the MJHL and then played the 1971-72 and 1972-73 seasons with the Jets, Clubs and Swift Current of the Western League. Pro career included two seasons in the AHL and five in the WHA.

Nov. 16 in Winnipeg - **Joe Cyr, 84** - Played for the junior Winnipeg Barons in 1954-55, with the Johnstown Jets of the EHL in 1955-56 and then for many years with the intermediate Carmen Beavers. Coached the St. Boniface Saints to the MJHL championship in 1981 and was the founder of the Joe Cyr Progressive Hockey Schools.

Dec. 3 in Winnipeg - **Marcel Flett, 77** - Played for the 1960-64 Assiniboia Residential School teams that were inducted into the MHHF in 2017. Later played for Tobans, Sagkeeng and the Southeast oldtimers and coached the Winnipeg Selects oldtimers.

Dec. 4 in Nanaimo, B.C. - **Gary Whyte, 84** - Broadcast MJHL games on cable TV for many years, coached the Red Community College Rebels, and served as manager of the Winnipeg Clubs of the WHL.

Dec. 7 in Winnipeg - **Brian Scott, 75** - Assiniboine Park Minor Hockey Association referee-in-chief in the 1970s.

Dec. 17 in Winnipeg - **George Kuntz** - Coached minor hockey for many years at Winnipeg community clubs, managed the junior St. James Canadians in 1970-71 and was a coach with the junior Kildonan North Stars 1979-80.

Dec. 17 in Winnipeg - **Frank Hewlko, 95** - Longtime resident of Gilbert Plains who played for the hometown Beavers.



Dec. 25 in Winnipeg - **Ernie Tycoles, 88** - While living in The Pas in the 1960s and early 1970s, served as vice-president of the local minor hockey association.