



Merrill H. Blake

December 8, 1943 - November 14, 2013

Hampton – Merrill H. Blake, 69, of Hampton, died Thursday, November 14, 2013 at his home after a long battle with cancer.

He was born in Exeter, December 8, 1943, a son of the late Hollis W. and Phyllis (Small) Blake.

Merrill was a lifelong resident of Hampton and a 1962 graduate of Winnacunnet High School. In the 1960s and 1970s, Merrill was a well-known stock car owner and driver, racing every weekend at Star and Lee Speedways. He had worked construction in his early years before buying his own boat and working as a commercial dragger out of the Yankee Fisherman's Cooperative in Seabrook. Merrill's family was one of the founding families that had been fishing the New England coast since 1643. Due to his illness, Merrill retired from fishing after over 30 years on the water. Since his retirement, Merrill's life has been his grandchildren. He loved his family and spending time with them meant the world to him. He will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him.

He leaves behind his wife and best friend of nearly 30 years, Pamela of Hampton, his sons, Richard Blake of Boston, MA, Merrill E. Blake of Portland, ME and Robert Bates of Kittery, ME; his daughters, Jamie Finson of Hampton and Lisa Washburn and her husband Craig of Colebrook. He also leaves his

sisters, Gail Garrigan and her husband Paul of Hampton and Susan Pizon of Stratham; his 6 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In addition to his parents, Merrill was predeceased by his daughter Kelly Blake.

Visiting hours will be from 5 to 7 PM on Monday, November 18, 2013 in the Remick & Gendron Funeral Home-Crematory, 811 Lafayette Road, Hampton. A memorial service will be held at 10 AM on Tuesday in the funeral home. Burial will follow in the High Street Cemetery, Hampton. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited. In lieu of flowers the family suggests donations to the American Cancer Society, 2 Commerce Drive, Suite 110, Bedford, NH 03110.

Cemetery Details

High Street Cemetery

150 High Street
Hampton, NH

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 18. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory
811 Lafayette Road ·
Hampton, NH 03842
(603) 926-6500
info@remickgendron.com
<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

Memorial Service

NOV 19. 10:00 AM (ET)

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811 Lafayette Road ·
Hampton, NH 03842
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Tribute Wall



“ *Remick & Gendron Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Merrill H. Blake*



Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - November 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Merrill H. Blake*

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ *Merrill was our neighbor when we moved to Mace road in 1968. As a kid I looked up to him because he was always into something new and cool. When he aquired a mini bike in the early 70's he let me ride it to my hearts content. Same for the old four stroke snow machine he got that winter. He took me fishing in the brooks around Hampton and taught me how to poach trout at the ice house. He always had some kind of animal hanging in his garage. I never saw him after I left hampton but as a kid I remember him as being on his own program and always looking for adventure. I liked that.*

*Thanks Merrill,
Chuck Lees (Williams)*

chuck lees - January 05, 2015 at 11:22 AM

MD

“ To the Blake family. My brother Ricky Dupuis was a very good friend of Merrill's. Ricky lives in the Phillipines now so I wanted to send this message for him that you are in our thoughts and prayers. You know those guys had a blast growing up together! Great memories! I am Ricky's sister, Michele Dupuis.

Michele Dupuis - November 21, 2013 at 04:16 PM

BB

“ Brad And Paulette Bailey lit a candle in memory of Merrill H. Blake



Brad and Paulette Bailey - November 19, 2013 at 09:00 PM

TM

“ HI Dennis,

Thank you for the heads up about Merrill. This is one of the funnies days that I can remember having with Merrill. It was a rainy fall day and we had decided to go duck hunting. I picked up Merrill early on the morning and we started down the road from his parent's house and slid off the road and hit a stone wall with the right fender of my 1950 Mercury coop. We were not able to get it out on our own but shortly after the accident along came a guy with a tractor (only in Hampton and only in the day) and pulled us out, we thank him and he went on his way. We had only one problem I could not turn the car to the right, not to be deterred from our duck hunting trip we preceded on making only left hand turns and laughing out loud each time we did. We were leaving Hampton Beach coming up the back street (when it was two way) came up to the stop by the Ashworth and stopped just as a Hampton police car went by which immediately stopped. Seeing the dented front fender he suspected we had been up to something and asked us to follow him to the Police station which then was on the beach side of the main street. Given the we could only turn to the left we took off straight heading North and of course he thought we were getting away and turn around and gave chase. We then turned left through the parking lot, left again and started for the station turning left again into the station parking lot with him in hot pursuit. He jump out of his car and approach my car making lots of noise and as you could imagine we again were all laughing in the car about how we got there. This was the scene, there were three of us in my car with loaded shot guns and he was there with his trusty 38 revolver, this would never happen today. We unloaded our shot guns and he asked what happen to the car which I explained and offer to take him to the scene which we did. At the scene he found a empty beer can and looked at us (why he would think that us teenager would have been drinking at that hour escapes me) and the good news it was rusty. Off THE HOOK. We returned to the station got back in my car made a lot of left turns and got everyone home safely with no duck for dinner. There were many days that I can remember as I write this that involved Merrill that brought a smile to my face. I'm sorry that

he has passed. Taylor

Taylor MacPherson - November 19, 2013 at 03:19 PM

JT

“ *Jeff Travers lit a candle in memory of Merrill H. Blake*



Jeff Travers - November 19, 2013 at 04:12 AM

JM

“ *Judith McKinney lit a candle in memory of Merrill H. Blake*



Judith McKinney - November 17, 2013 at 11:22 PM

JM

“ *Dear family, I just found about about Merrill. My heart is breaking and have many many tears to share with you all. We were cousins and were together from our very early years. Our mothers were cousins. I grieve with you.*

Judy Janvrin

XOXOXO

jUDIE mCKINNEY - November 17, 2013 at 11:04 PM

KT

“ *Fond memories of Merrill ! known him since the 60S. Sorry for your loss*

kathy scott thurlow - November 17, 2013 at 06:00 PM

KT

“ *Kathy Scott Thurlow lit a candle in memory of Merrill H. Blake*



kathy scott thurlow - November 17, 2013 at 05:53 PM

FH

“ *Frank O. And Susan M. Hale lit a candle in memory of Merrill H. Blake*



Frank O. and Susan M. Hale - November 17, 2013 at 02:34 PM

LR

“ *Merrill had a great love for the outdoors be it hunting, fishing or nursing an animal back to health. I have a lot of fond memories of when we young. God Bless you and your family.*

Larry & Barbara Royal

Larry & Barbar Royal - November 17, 2013 at 02:11 PM

MC

“ *To Rich and family, I was sorry to read of your dad's passing. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Love, Mabel*

Mabel Cummings - November 16, 2013 at 05:44 PM

TR

“ We wish to send our thoughts and prayers to Merrill's family. He was a great man and a wonderful neighbor for the 10 years we lived beside him. Our boys knew him as " Papa" and he treated them with the love and kindness that he gave his own grandchildren. I will never forget the words he said when we saw him this summer. Hey the 3 musketeers are back together again.. You will be greatly missed. Dana , Trish , Jordan & Alex Coulombe

Trish - November 16, 2013 at 05:24 PM

KG

“ To Pam and Gail and family
I send my good thoughts and Prayers, Merrill was a very close Friend
who will be missed. I will always remember going out on his fishing boat,
Ken Goldsmith

Ken Goldsmith - November 16, 2013 at 04:08 PM

LS

“ To Gail, and Merrill's whole family, Barry and I are extending our condolences in his passing, and hope that many happy memories provide comfort to you all. Our favorite memory is watching and routing for Merrill as he drove my brother Larry's race car at Star Speedway, and praying for his victory and safety! With many sympathies, Leslie Whitman Spratt and Barry Spratt.

Leslie Whitman Spratt - November 16, 2013 at 09:23 AM

JM

“ Dear Gail and family,
So sorry to hear of your loss.
May happy memories comfort you.
Jean Whitman Mayotte

Jean Whitman Mayotte - November 16, 2013 at 09:16 AM

DM

“ To the entire Blake family my thoughts & prayers are with you during this time of loss and mourning. Try and find comfort in all of your memories..
Donna Meyer-Miller

Donna Miller - November 15, 2013 at 01:58 PM

FG

pam and all his loved ones he will be missed he was a good friend and always there whenever i needed him i will miss him my love and sympathy too all of you Freddy G

Fred Goldsmith - November 16, 2013 at 05:50 PM

TB

I knew Merrill back in the 7th, and 8th grade. We played Tid-Bit basketball together. If something went sideways they (teachers) blamed Merrill. I remember an incident where someone started throwing a can of pepper around the room. Merrill grabbed the can and threw it out the window to get rid of it. The wind blew pepper back into one of the girls face. In walked McClain (teacher). The girl screamed Merrill did it. I was new to the school and told McClain what really happened but it mattered not as Merrill took the heat. But he came to me and thanked me for going to his defense. We were friends from then on. I visited him at his home during the reunion before last. His cancer was in remission. That was the last I saw Merrill but before I left town he called me and thanked me for visiting him. That was Merrill. Tim Bowen

tim bowen - December 16, 2013 at 02:27 PM

RB

Merrill Blake is my grandfather thank everyone for the thoughts and prayers. Since his passing its been one of the hardest things my family has gone through. I would spend at least 2 days a week at his house on Hampton Beach. When he passed on I didn't fully understand because I was only 6 or 7 when he passed but now when I look back I feel pain and aching due to it. prayer god rides with us as we cry in memory and passing of Merrill Blake.

Robert Bates Jr grandson of Merrill.

Robert Bates - March 23, 2023 at 10:10 AM