



Roland A. Devost

February 15, 1920 - October 13, 2016

NORTON, VT – It is with great sadness that the family of Roland A. Devost announces his passing on Thursday, Oct. 13, 2016, in West Stewartstown, NH. Roland joins his wife Rita who preceded him in her ascendance to heaven in June, 1999.

For Roland and Rita Devost, there was nothing in life that they treasured more than the legacy of the family they raised together. That family includes four sons; Andrew, Gerald, Ronald and his wife Francine, and Roland Jr. and his wife Bexie, seven grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren. Their sense of family extended well beyond their direct descendants and Roland and Rita never hesitated to open their home or their dinner table to friends who became extended members of the Devost family over time.

Born on Feb. 15, 1920, in Norton, he was a son of David and Blanche (Molloy) Devost, and a lifetime resident in the town of Norton. Roland was the perfect example of Northeast Kingdom hardiness when he started his logging company by working his team of horses in weather conditions that modern tractors could not navigate at the time. His hard work and tenacity led to the development of a decades-long family logging and construction business that still has roots in the town of Norton with his sons Gerry and Ronnie, and his grandson Steve. Gerry and Ronnie worked with their father throughout his career establishing Devost Logging as a multi-generation business that acted

as custodian and steward to much of the vast wilderness within Norton and surrounding towns.

His strong work ethic went into everything he did, and he always found time to volunteer in the community, holding a number of positions in the town of Norton, and never turning down a neighbor in need of assistance. Upon retirement he continued to keep busy with a variety of projects, often enlisting his grandchildren to assist him.

While Roland might have had a stoic and serious exterior, his friends knew him as a man with a great sense of humor who loved practical jokes and could break into fits of laughter retelling stories in the company of family and friends. Some of his practical jokes are so endearing that they have been retold each year at deer camp for several decades.

He was an avid hunter and his knowledge of the local woodlands resulted in a long streak of successful hunts and the bagging of several record-setting whitetail deer in the state of Vermont. His passion for hunting translated into multiple expeditions and a trophy collection that included elk, caribou, and other large game from the hinterlands of the U.S. and Canada. His passion for hunting was instilled in his sons, and the Devost deer camp, which he constructed with them over 50 years ago, still fills up with generations of hunters that include his sons, grandsons, nephews, cousins, and a handful of close friends every November.

Roland is also preceded in death by his second wife, Wilma (Mason) Devost, earlier in 2016.

There are no public calling hours. A graveside committal service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 17, 2017, at St. Bernard's Cemetery in Norton, Vt.

Condolences may be offered to the family on-line by going to www.jenkinsnewman.com.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home in Colebrook.

Cemetery Details

St. Bernard's Cemetery

Norton, VT

Tribute Wall

RC

“ *My sincere condolences I just learned of Roland's passing. I'm the daughter of Paul & Marie Luce (Audet) Dion. Roland and Rita were my Godparents. I recall visiting their home by the Railroad Tracks not far from the Border when I was very young on our way to Canada they were so welcoming.
Sincerely, Rita (Dion) Champagne*

Rita Dion Champagne - October 27, 2025 at 02:17 PM

GP

“ *Gerald, Ronald and Families, I just heard of your Dad's passing, on behalf of the 4th Degree Members of the Knights of Columbus of Vermont, please accept our condolences...Every Knight of Columbus is entrusted to the care of Mary, the Mother of God, and we carry the Rosary as the sign of our dedication to her and to her Son. Confident in her motherly love for us all, we entrust the soul of our brother, Roland, to her, that she may present him to her Son. As an expression of our fraternal concern and as the District Master of the 4th Degree of Vermont, I will pray the rosary of Our Lady in his honor. May God's Grace be a shining light in your hearts for those we love don't go away, they are walking besides us every day.*

George Piette - June 16, 2017 at 02:11 PM

KB

“ Hello from Michigan! We've just received word of Roland's passing, and Andy Brissette wished to extend his condolences to his cousin's family. Andy shared with me a little something that Roland used to say to him in French as he chased "Little Andrew" around the barnyard. Believe me, it was quite humorous and colorful!

Andy was quite affected by his elder cousin's passing, and had wonderful memories of Roland's accomplishments. By all accounts, Roland was a profound example of the "Greatest Generation".

From the remaining Brissette family members to the Devost family, you are in our hearts and prayers.

Kathryn Brissette - November 10, 2016 at 03:44 PM

LK

“ We were sorry to learn of Roland's passing. He was a great man who certainly had a positive impact on the town of Norton and the people he came into contact with.

Patty and Les Klinefelter

Leslie Klinefelter - October 24, 2016 at 07:53 AM

JM

“ Our condolences to to the Devost boys and the rest of Roland's family.

Rest In Peace Mr. Devost.

John & Sue Morrissey

John and Sue Morrissey - October 18, 2016 at 07:07 PM

SS

“ I'm so sorry to hear about Rollie, it was quite a shock to hear. I always enjoyed helping him out whenever he stopped by or called about his cell phone. My deepest sympathy to the family! Sherri sullivan (audiocarve) Newport, vt.

sherri sullivan - October 18, 2016 at 05:31 PM

AD

“ A la famille Devost,
Mes plus sincerer sympathies a toute la famille.
Avec mes condoleances ,
Alain C. Dupont, famille de Roland et Gilberte Dupont, de Canaan,
Vt.

Alain C. Dupont - October 17, 2016 at 10:35 AM

CM

“ Gerry I am so sorry for the loss of your father, he was a great man and raised an amazing family, I am so happy that I got the chance to know him, our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family, we love you. Chris and Mike Muhlhauser



Chris & Mike - October 17, 2016 at 07:24 AM

JG

“ To the Devost family, I am so sorry for your loss and I'm sure he will be missed.

Jim Guay - October 16, 2016 at 10:27 PM

HH

“ Our deepest condolences go out to the Devost family on your loss.

Haven & Peggy Haynes - October 16, 2016 at 07:23 PM

KE

“ *Kenn lit a candle in memory of Roland A.
Devost*



kenn - October 16, 2016 at 05:48 PM

KE

“ *Roland & Rita guided the town of Norton for many years and their
leadership, wisdom and friendliness will be missed by all.
Kenn Stransky*

kenn - October 16, 2016 at 05:47 PM

PB

So sorry for your loss--may your memories lift you!

Pat Banfill - October 19, 2016 at 11:14 AM