

## Randy "PUTS" Tieman Memorial Press Box South Huron Recreation Centre

Good evening Your Worship and Members of Council for The Municipality of South Huron.

I am Peter Mason and this is Doug Fairbairn.

I am a former resident of Exeter and now live in Bayfield. I have lived and worked in Huron County my entire life, before retiring from policing in 2005 after 32 years.

Growing up Puts lived a few houses down from me on Ann St. We were childhood friends and played sports together.

As we grew older our careers took us away from Exeter but both of us considered Exeter as home.

Doug has lived in Exeter his entire life. He retired at the end of 2017. This coming summer will be his 44th year in senior baseball. He played 7 years in Dashwood until they folded in 1982. In 1983 he was part of a 4 man group that started the Exeter Express. They have won the Senior 'D' championship 5 times and 3 of the last 6 years they have won the Senior 'AA' championship, for a total of 8 Baseball Ontario championships. He played with the Exeter Mohawks for nearly 10 years. So local sports is definitely his forte.

We are here tonight to ask The Municipality of South Huron Council to consider a request to name the "PRESS BOX" at the South Huron Recreation Centre in Exeter "The Randy "PUTS" Tieman Memorial Press Box."

Randy was given the nickname "PUTS" at a very young age by his father Russell and to this day we can not figure out how all of that came about but the nickname stuck, and around here he has always been known as Puts.

Puts was born in Exeter in 1954. He attended both Exeter Public and South Huron District High School.

After graduating from High School he went on to Fanshawe College in London and enrolled in the Broadcasting Program.

After graduating from Fanshawe he was hired by radio station CJBK in London, and later moved to Manitoba to continue working in broadcasting. In 1983 he moved to Montreal as a sportscaster with CFCF radio, and then on to CTV.

In 1995-96, he defied death not once but three times within 18 months, surviving Stage 4 Hodgkin's lymphoma, meningitis and a

quintuple bypass. Months later, he was back to playing hockey, as well as donating his time to emcee fundraisers for cancer and share the story of his successful fight against the disease.

He had a love for all sports and played them his entire life. He also played for our beloved Exeter Hawks when we won the 1971-1972 OHA Championship.

In 2010 he came back to Exeter and helped emcee The Exeter Hawks 50 Year Reunion held at the South Huron Recreation Centre. He also came back to Exeter to emcee for the Ausable Bayfield Conservation fundraiser.

In 2017 he left CTV Montreal and was looking forward to spending more time with his much loved family in retirement.

In November of 2018 Puts passed away suddenly from a massive heart attack at his home in Williamstown.

## **TRIBUTES**



"THE MONTREAL CANADIENS paid their respects to long-time CTV Montreal sportscaster Randy Tieman at Monday night's hockey game. Tieman passed away suddenly Friday at the age of 64, and his friends, colleagues and fans have been sharing their warm memories

of him.

The Canadiens organization showed a photo of the beloved sportscaster on its jumbo screen during the first period of play to warm applause from the crowd.

Whether it was his smile, warmth, devotion to the local sports scene, or his trademark mustache, Montrealers remembered CTV's longtime sportscaster Randy Tieman fondly after news of his death was released on Sunday.

One viewer wrote that he "was a great person who helped make the world smile and help make the world a better place.

<u>PRIME MINISTER JUSTIN TRUDEAU</u> who grew up in Montreal, sent his condolences to Randy's friends and family.

"For decades, Randy Tieman invited viewers to share in his joy for sports - professional, amateur & everything in between. His love of the game came straight from the heart, and Montrealers felt it. He'll be deeply missed. My condolences to his family & everyone at @CTVMontreal. https://t.co/iBNgZxzkfo

— Justin Trudeau (@JustinTrudeau) November 18, 2018.

## OTHER WORDS OF CONDOLENCES

Randy was the guy I grew up watching during supper time and making sure I didn't miss the sports segment. Rest In Peace Randy ♥ https://t.co/JQckXRdNQK

— Bobby Caruana (@bcaruana09) November 18, 2018 Very saddened to hear of the passing of Veteran @CTVMontreal Sportscaster Randy Tieman. I had the honor of meeting Randy a few years back. A true Gentleman. My thoughts are with his Family and Friends. #RIPRandyTieman ♥ pic.twitter.com/Pb5viRpsHG — jonathan perron (@jonathanperron3) November 18, 2018

Even the Montreal Canadiens and Montreal Impact tweeted their sympathies.

We're sad to hear of Randy's passing. Our sincere condolences go out to his family and friends.

— Canadiens Montréal (@CanadiensMTL)

This is devastating news. Randy was so good to a 23 year old kid who just moved to Montreal, trying to find his way in broadcasting. He taught me a lot about this business but more importantly about life. My condolences to the Tieman family. https://t.co/GVinaSfDkU — Brent Wallace (@tsn\_wally)

November 18, 2018

There of course were many more condolences shared by his friends, and collègues!

As you can see Puts was lauded by his peers in the media and sports communities for his positive attitude, professionalism, and mentorship.

He is survived by his wife of 32 years Liane, and children Jesse, Dennis, Harry, and Gabrielle.

So Ladies and Gentlemen of South Huron Council, as you can see Puts was a well know, well respected Sports Broadcaster in Canada.

Doug and I are VERY proud and honoured to have grown up with Puts and to have known him.

We hope through this short presentation you can see the type of individual he was and grant our request to have the Press Box and the South Huron Recreation Centre dedicated in his memory.

If you have any questions regarding our presentation we will try and answer them now.

THANK-YOU

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- Things to add to presentation
  - + pictures of Sports Broadcasting Booth, sample sign
  - + estimated costs
  - + family support for this project
  - + if approval granted timeline, and anticipated dedication at an Exeter Hawks home game this fall.
  - + notice to new/sports agencies in area.

+ maybe someone from CTV sports Montreal that knew Putts.