

Ross Harvey

- 1) Probably the most gifted athlete that I've ever met. He was born to play sports and was top level at many of them.
- 2) What differentiates Ross from other naturals who went on to become champions, is that Ross is too nice a person. The champions were an aggressive and mean bunch who trained hard and long and never gave an inch. I always felt that if Ross would have put in half the work and had been just a little bit less nice, that he would have prevailed. The bottom line though was that Ross didn't care about the sport as much as he cared about the people.
- 3) Girls were star struck with Ross but he rarely pursued them. He didn't want to hurt their feelings because he was so busy playing that he wouldn't have had time for a relationship.
- 4) We used to play a racquet tournament amongst some of the guys at the club. We included badminton, tennis, racquetball and short tennis. As predicted Ross wiped us all out in the first 3 events and came 2nd in the short tennis. It was a blast and Ross got to showcase his natural abilities because he really didn't play anything but racquetball at the time.
- 5) Often over the summer months, Ross and a few of our sports friends, would come over to my house to play pool volleyball, eat dinner and play scrabble. He was even the BEST AT SCRABBLE!
- 6) Ross was admired by club members and members were proud that Ross would come to the club and partake in activities with them. Always complimentary, he would tell members that they were improving or that he thought that they were playing well. Ross made people feel good about themselves.
- 7) I am not a gifted natural athlete. I had to be the best possible at the intangibles. I trained and practiced harder than most players. Ross only encouraged me and when he beat me in practice, tournament and exhibition play, he never insulted me or made me feel inferior even though I was. He was the best player but never was the bad person.
- 8) When I look back 40 years ago, my time at the sports club where I worked was enhanced because of Ross. He's a special guy who brought sunshine to the court and always put people first.
- 9) It was a true pleasure for me to share the early 80's with Ross.