

Kevin Willington April 30, 1970 – April 19, 2024



It is with shattered hearts that we share the news of the sudden passing of Kevin Willington. Kevin will be deeply missed by his mother Dawne, sister Brenda (Dave), nephews Trevor and Lukas (who he loved to spoil excessively), aunts, uncle, cousins, old Vancouver friends, roommates past and present, neighbours and his wide group of friends and co-workers in Ottawa, and of course, his delightful dog Tweek. Recently predeceased by his father, Ken, for whom our hearts have not yet healed.

Born and raised in North Vancouver, Kevin graduated from Argyle Secondary School in 1988, before attending Capilano University and graduating from Simon Fraser University. Kevin subsequently completed an electrical program at BCIT, before going on to a 20+ year career with Alcatel/Nokia in Ottawa.

Kevin is remembered for his engaging smile and infectious laughter. He was kind and hardworking, and fully committed to his passions. An avid board gamer, Kevin hosted many games nights at his home. His trips back to Vancouver always involved family games of rummoli, king's cribbage, and canasta, as well as, bringing new games to play with his nephews. As a D&D dungeon master, Kevin hosted several campaigns a week with groups, both online and in-person. Kevin introduced many Ottawa youth to the game, reveling in their enthusiasm and creativity. He was welcoming to everyone.

A dedicated badminton player, Kevin was active in Ottawa area clubs, coaching players and mentoring fellow coaches. Working with Badminton Canada, Badminton Ontario, and the National Coaches Association, Kevin helped to develop coaching certification programs for the sport. His passion

for badminton took him to Nunavut to train local coaches, and to Peru as a representative of Canadian coaches at an international conference.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Kevin's memory Operation Smile Canada at <http://support.operationsmile.ca/goto/kevin> or Badminton Canada or a charity of your choice.

A celebration of life will be held in Ottawa. Details to follow.

We wish to thank all the friends and family who have helped in so many ways during this difficult time. Your kindness will always be remembered.

CBC News - [Shooting victim was 'longtime friend' to Ontario's badminton community | CBC News](#)

Shooting victim was 'longtime friend' to Ontario's badminton community

53-year-old Kevin Willington remembered as dedicated builder

An Ottawa man who was shot dead Friday night is being remembered by his colleagues as a devoted badminton coach who'd been nationally recognized for his training efforts.

Kevin Willington, 53, was killed at a house in Manor Park in what [police consider to be a targeted killing](#), meaning that the suspect was not randomly shooting at people.

"I am still processing the shock," said fellow badminton coach Janet Hugli in an email to CBC on the weekend.

Emergency crews were called to the area just north of the Beechwood Cemetery in central Ottawa around 9:20 p.m. on Friday.

They found Willington with life-threatening injuries. He died at the scene shortly after and his death is under investigation.

Willington received this award from the Coaching Association of Canada last year. (Submitted)

Hugli and Dominic Soong, co-founders of a local badminton academy, said via email that Willington was "an excellent example of a sport builder" who volunteered thousands of hours developing coaches across the province.

"Kevin demonstrated his passion for badminton with players and coaches of all ages and all levels, and helped the players and coaches develop confidence as their skills progressed," they said.

"He will be greatly missed."

In 2023, the Coaching Association of Canada recognized Willington for his work delivering badminton-specific National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) training to other coaches.

According to Brian Tjoa, the executive director of Badminton Ontario, Willington mentored hundreds of coaches across the province.

He was a "longtime friend to the whole badminton community," Tjoa said via email.

Willington's death marks Ottawa police's third homicide case of the year. No arrests or suspects have been announced.

A search of Ontario property records shows Willington was not the owner of the home police had taped off.

Minute of silence planned

The Kanata Badminton Club, where Willington was a longtime member, shared the call from police for information about what happened.

"We will miss his friendly face, his gentle banter, and of course his passion for badminton," the club added in an email to members on Sunday.

Players meeting at Earl of March Secondary School will hold a minute of silence in Willington's honour on Monday night.