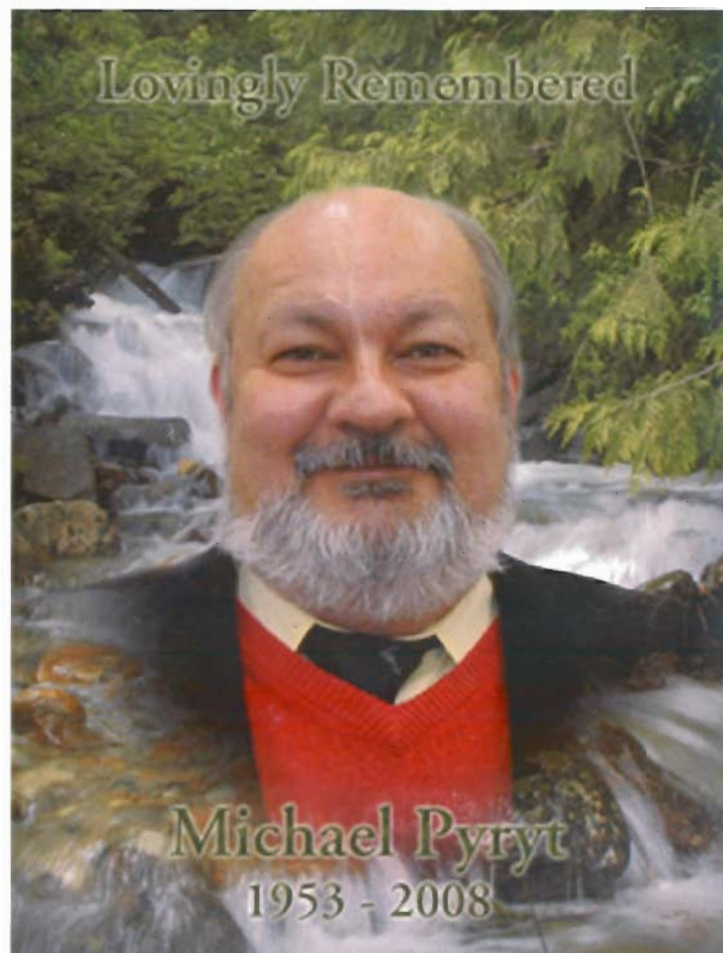
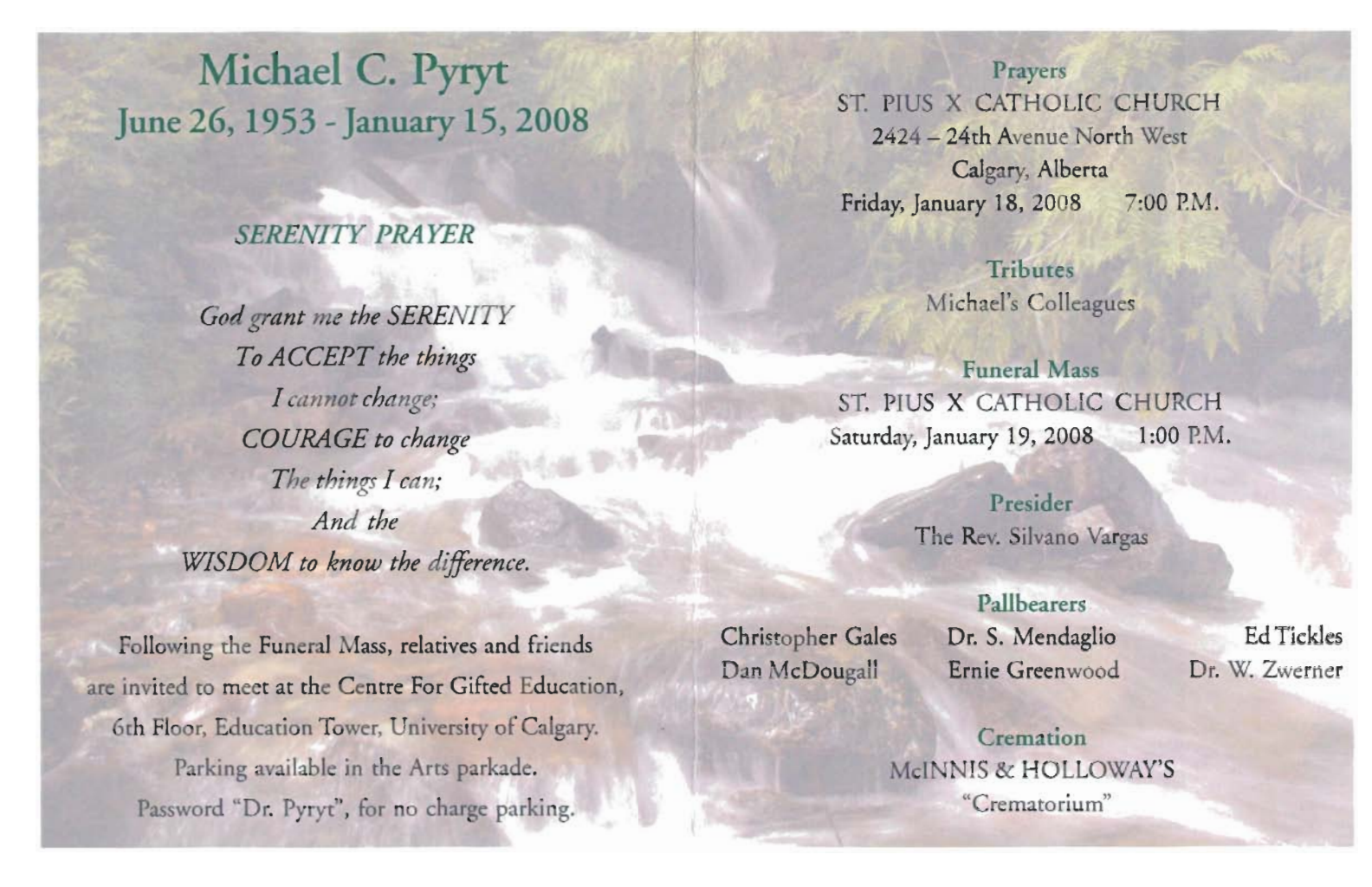


Dr. Michael Christopher Pyryt 1953 - 2008. Michael passed away Tuesday morning at the Foothills Hospital upon his return from a trip to Australia. His parents, Edward Joseph and Frances Mary Ellen (nee Loughren) Pyryt predeceased him. He is survived by his wife, Leta Gonzales-Pyryt, his daughter Tara and her husband Christopher Gales, his granddaughter Brooke, and his sister Dorothy, as well as many family members in New Jersey. Born on June 26, 1953 in Passaic, New Jersey, Michael obtained a B.A. in Psychology in 1975 and an Ed.M. in Gifted Education in 1976 from The Johns Hopkins University. He completed his doctorate in Educational Psychology in 1984 at the University of Kansas. His subsequent distinguished professional academic career focused on gifted education. He was a tenured assistant professor at the West Virginia College of Graduate Studies, a tenured assistant professor in the Department of Educational Psychology at the University of Calgary, and from 1995 an associate professor in the Division of Applied Psychology, Faculty of Education, at the University of Calgary. In 2000 he became the Director of the Centre for Gifted Education at the University and was responsible for expanding the profile of gifted education and promoting the education of gifted children locally, provincially, nationally and internationally. He published extensively in his field, held numerous professional memberships, and was involved in innumerable research projects. A devout Catholic, Michael was a former runner and in addition a life-long fan of the Johns Hopkins Blue Jays lacrosse team, the University of Kansas Jayhawks and Notre Dame Fighting Irish football teams. Michael loved the many dogs and cats he had over the years and his signature slide at the end of presentations pictured his dog, Fufu, and read "My goal in life is to be a person as good as my dog already thinks I am." He was that and more, and he will be dearly missed by family, friends, colleagues and students.

In living memory of Michael Pyryt,  
McINNIS & HOLLOWAY has provided a tree to be  
dedicated at Fish Creek Provincial Park  
Sunday, September 14, 2008.





**Michael C. Pyryt**  
**June 26, 1953 - January 15, 2008**

***SERENITY PRAYER***

*God grant me the SERENITY*

*To ACCEPT the things*

*I cannot change;*

*COURAGE to change*

*The things I can;*

*And the*

*WISDOM to know the difference.*

Following the Funeral Mass, relatives and friends are invited to meet at the Centre For Gifted Education, 6th Floor, Education Tower, University of Calgary.

Parking available in the Arts parkade.

Password "Dr. Pyryt", for no charge parking.

**Prayers**

ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC CHURCH

2424 - 24th Avenue North West

Calgary, Alberta

Friday, January 18, 2008 7:00 P.M.

**Tributes**

Michael's Colleagues

**Funeral Mass**

ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday, January 19, 2008 1:00 P.M.

**Presider**

The Rev. Silvano Vargas

**Pallbearers**

Christopher Gales

Dr. S. Mendaglio

Ed Tickle

Dan McDougall

Ernie Greenwood

Dr. W. Zwerner

**Cremation**

McINNIS & HOLLOWAY'S

"Crematorium"