

OBITUARY

Brad Steven Francis passed away on April 22, 2026.

He is survived by his partner Lenni Workman, his sister Randi Francis (Jane Kurtz), his son Nicholas Francis, step-son Elisha Burrows, and grandsons Braedon and River. He will be missed by the Workman family, as well as his friends in the Toronto and Warkworth communities.

Brad was born in Los Angeles in 1951, first born to his parents, Donna and Keith Francis. The family moved to Oregon later where Brad grew up camping, fishing, and skiing.

Brad moved to British Columbia in 1967 with his first partner and a small group of American friends. They built their own houses, a vibrant community, doing logging and raising horses in the Shushwap area.

During the 70s Brad joined the Caravan Stage Co., a small theatre company based in B.C. that travelled by horse and wagon touring their show. He was their bass player/farrier/sign and wagon painter. There he met his second partner, Ida Carnevali, playwright and performer. In 1981 they settled in Toronto with their 2 sons. Brad began working as a scenic artist in the film business as a member of the union IATSE.

The Toronto film scene was bustling during the 80s and 90s, and Brad was busy. His usual position was with the crew as "On-Set Painter", he was often chosen on the large productions. He came to be called by his workmates as "Rembrad." He loved the work and made good friends in the union.

In 1992 Lenni and Brad got together: although they had met years before through the Toronto art scene. They were keen to get out of the city and by 1994 had bought a farm in the Warkworth area. Brad loved the rolling hills and all the barns and outbuildings the farm provided. Here, when not working on films, he could keep the farm equipment running, do carpentry, and unwind. He also found some friends to play music with.

In 2021, after a 40 year career, he chose to retire to the Warkworth farm. Here he loved to watch the sunsets from the verandah, hug his dogs, and occasionally play music with local friends. Illness took over for the last 2 years of his life and he was cared for at home until the day before his death.

"Rembrad, you got paged to do a touch-up on the stairway to heaven. Then you kept on going"