

# Family reeling after puppy's death

By David Lea

METROLAND WEST MEDIA GROUP

A Milton family is asking residents to be careful and think before taking a dog to an off-leash dog park after their beloved pet was killed at Oakville's Kingsford Gardens earlier this summer.

The Malecki family was visiting relatives in Oakville when Zenon Malecki, 60, decided to take his one-year-old Chorkie, Russel, for a walk in the area.

Malecki's son Jacob, 25, said the family had only had Russel for a short time, but had already come to the love the little creature, which had been taken in after another family member decided they could no longer care for him.

"The dog came to our family during a tough time and he really brought our family together," said Jacob.

"My mother fell in love with that dog and so did my dad. My dad would take him on multiple walks each day. He said he never expected to get so attached to a dog."

Malecki had taken Russel to **22**



Russel, a one-year-old Chorkie, suffered fatal injuries following an encounter with other dogs at a leash-free park in Oakville. **Submitted photo**

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