

Anthea Lynne Murray Lee

Anthea Lee passed away peacefully at the age of 77 at the James Bay Care Centre in Victoria, B.C. on July 7, 2017. She will be lovingly remembered and deeply missed by family and friends she leaves behind. Anthea is survived by her sons Stuart and Matthew; brothers and sisters-in-law Colin and Lynda and Craig and Karen; nephews Blair and Neal and their wives Ariel and Amber; and her grand nephews and nieces Sophia, Graeme, Iris and Avery. She was predeceased by her father Richard Dykes in 1991 and mother Madeleine Dykes in 1999; and her brother Ian Dykes in 2011 and her sister-in-law Sharon Dykes in 2004.

Anthea was born on May 1, 1940 in Edinburgh, Scotland, to Richard and Madeleine Dykes. Richard was a Canadian medical student from Thunder Bay, Ontario, studying at the University of Edinburgh, and Madeleine was an English nurse and physiotherapist from Batley, Yorkshire, who was working in Edinburgh when she met Richard.

After World War II, when Anthea was 7 years old, the family moved from Britain to Thunder Bay for several years, but ultimately settled in Wetaskiwin, a small city in Alberta located approximately 40 miles south of Edmonton.

At age 14, she attended Balmoral Hall, a girls' boarding school in Winnipeg, from which she graduated high school. She then attended the University of Alberta, in Edmonton, where she met her future husband Robert ("Bob") Lee, who was a law student there. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Alberta.

Bob and Anthea were married in 1961. After graduating from the University of Alberta, Bob joined the Canadian Foreign Service in 1963. For the next 9 years of Anthea's life, she and Bob lived in locations to which Bob was posted: Karachi

(Pakistan), Philadelphia, Belgrade (Yugoslavia), Ottawa, and Boston. Anthea's sons Stuart (1964) and Matthew (1967) were born during these years.

She and Bob went their separate ways in 1973, and Anthea returned home to Alberta (Edmonton) with her two boys, Stuart and Matthew.

Upon her return, she earned a degree in Education. She then began the work that became her passion – helping hard of hearing and deaf children and their families develop communication skills so they could function as families (Anthea was fluent in sign language).

She also developed a passion for alternative healing and body work – and became an instructor in tai chi chih, a registered Swedish massage therapist, a certified Trager practitioner, and a reflexologist. With a partner, she opened one of Edmonton's first what we'd now call "wellness centres" in 1982.

She was an avid reader and, for several years, she owned and managed a used book retail store.

Anthea's passions and interests included: her sons; alternative healing; 'esoteric' spirituality; education of the deaf and their families; reading, especially mystery novels; music and singing; dance; babies; Ma-Me-0 Beach & Pigeon Lake, and sunbathing there; and ice cream.

Anthea lived in Edmonton for 32 years. In 2005, upon her retirement, she moved to Victoria to enjoy its beauty, and take advantage of its mild weather, which allowed her to go outdoors all year round.

Suffering from dementia, she became a resident of the James Bay Care Centre in Victoria in 2014, where she spent the last three years of her life. The family would like to thank the caregivers and staff at James Bay Care Centre, who cared for

Anthea during that time.

A Service of Remembrance (reception to follow) will be held at the McCall Gardens, Sequoia Centre, 4665 Falaise Drive, Victoria, B.C., at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 14th, 2017.

Flowers would be gratefully appreciated in her memory.

Messages of remembrance may be left in the Condolence message box below.

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