

Barbara Rhoades (nee Fishler)

With great sorrow I announce the passing of Barbara Rhoades (nee Fishler), my dear wife of 56 years, on January 18 2024 at Victoria General Hospital. Barbara was born February 4, 1938 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. She was pre-deceased by her parents Max and Jenny Fishler, her sister and brother-in-law Celia and Jim Harvey, all of Vernon BC, and by her cousin Tirtza Berger and husband Gershon of Toronto. She is survived by her loving husband Darryl Rhoades, by her brother Alroy Fishler and his wife Kay in Penticton, by beloved nieces, nephews and their families in Alberta and California, and by cousin Avi Fishler and his wife Hassia and their family in Israel.

Barbara met Darryl at University of British Columbia in 1966 while she was studying for her B.Ed. A year later they married and set off to Ottawa where they spent the next 31 years, save a 3-year hiatus in Ann Arbor where Barbara earned her M.Ed. from the University of Michigan. She taught elementary school in Ottawa for 18 years, teaching all elementary grade levels at one time or another. In addition to the regular curriculum, she believed it was important to keep an eye on the child's physical well-being and social-emotional development. She brought much care and compassion to her teaching.

Barbara loved to cook and was an excellent cook. She read recipes voraciously and had myriads of cookbooks and several monthly subscriptions to cooking magazines. She compiled her own large binder of customized favorites long before digitization made it an easy task.

She adored animals of all sorts and could be seen cooing or cuddling those nearest-by, whether Cockatoo or Clydesdale, or her own kitty Purdu, who she cherished immensely.

She loved to travel and saw much of the world with Darryl,

including a 6 year stint living in Geneva.

Various health problems made her last 8 years very difficult, but she bore her burdens bravely and never lost her sense of humour, still finding something to enjoy each day. Her passing leaves a large hole and she will never be forgotten by those who loved her.

A Celebration of Barbara's life will be held in Penticton later this Spring.

Condolences and shared memories may be offered to the family below.

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