

Bhajan “Biji” Kaur Basi

With much sadness and with a heavy heart, we announce the peaceful passing of our beloved mother, Bhajan “Biji” Kaur Basi. Biji on May 19, 2022, at the age of 84.

Born near Jalandhar, Punjab, Biji and her late husband Harbhajan Singh Basi immigrated to Canada and worked hard to support their family of six. Biji began working at Pagliacci's as their first employee, and it was there that she was able to foster a community of fellow Punjabi immigrants that became an extended family for her here in Canada.

Biji was a light that expressed her love for the people around her through her selflessness, compassion and benevolence. She welcomed everyone around her as family, a tribute to her traditional village upbringing in India. She was always there to support anyone in need in their good or less fortunate times. An independent, resilient and motivated person, she always looked for ways to complete tasks by herself before ever asking for help. She loved social gatherings with family and friends, enjoyed humor and was happiest listening and sharing funny stories. Even though English was her second language, she relished in connecting with people, welcoming them with her generosity, a warm and nurturing demeanor and a beautiful smile.

Biji was an exceptional cook, as anyone who has tasted her cooking would surely remember. Her food was known far and wide for its rich flavours and for the comfort it provided to all who had the fortune of tasting it. She was a dedicated humanitarian and contributed to the kitchens at the Topaz Street Gurdwara for ‘seva’ (an act of compassion for others) for ‘langar’ (community soup kitchen) services.

She was an avid gardener and enjoyed growing her own food. Her garden, nestled atop a hill in Fernwood, still boasts an

extensive variety of flowers, vegetables, fruits, herbs, and shrubs. Every day, weather permitting, she would tend to her garden, a pastime she shared with her late husband and in recent years with her daughter, Raji.

Biji was a beloved mother to Deep, Polly, Shinda, Raji, and daughter-in-law Amarjit; grandmother to Nina, Sonya, Gurinder, Simmi, Sanjeev, Suneel, and Amrit; great-grandmother to Saya and Sahil; and adopted mother to everyone she encountered. Her presence will be deeply missed by all.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, May 28, 2022, at 1:00pm in the Sequoia Centre at McCall Gardens, 4665 Falaise Drive, Victoria, BC V8Y 1B4, and will be followed by a Prayer and Bhog Service at 3:00pm at the Sikh Temple, 1210 Topaz Ave, Victoria, BC V8T 2N1. For those who wish to attend via zoom the link is below:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84825889914?pwd=c00yUzAyeE5UU3VW0WFPbmRoQTJlQT09>

Condolences may be offered to the family below.

McCall Gardens

www.mccallgardens.com