

# Elizabeth “Betty” Skinner

Our beloved Mom, Grandma, and Great Grandma passed away at the age of 96, on March 12, 2009. Betty was born in Belfast, Ireland. She settled with her parents and two brothers on a farm in Vulcan, Alberta to be with her cousins, the Fulton clan of ten children. Mom enjoyed skating and playing hockey with her cousins and brothers.

In Calgary, she went to Business school and finished a degree in piano. In 1935 her family moved to Vancouver where she worked at the Royal Bank, General Motors and later Sweeney Cooperage. She met her future husband Jim at a Valentine's party in 1942 and married in 1944. In 1948 they moved to Port Alberni where Dad opened up the new Woodward's store.

Arlene Joan was born in 1948, followed by Marilyn Anne in 1950. Mom and Dad enjoyed a wonderful social life in Port Alberni. Golf, tennis and music were a big part of their lives. Mom had a strong sense of community, active in Girl Guides and the United Church.

After Dad retired in 1974, they moved to Victoria, continuing to play golf and enjoying their special walks at Willow's Beach.

Mom's straight forward attitude, (feisty), razor-sharp mind and loving, compassionate heart will be remembered by all. She found joy in playing bridge, listening to classical music, tackling the crossword puzzles, cheering on the Blue Jays, emailing family and knitting sweaters for her great grandchildren. Her strong faith and values guided us all.

Mom is predeceased by her husband, James Alexander Skinner and her brothers Jim and Gordon Johnston. She is survived by her two daughters: Arlene (Nelson) Storry and Marilyn Taylor; her grandchildren: Paul, Amy (Ken), Karin (Clint), Heather, Sara and Sean; and great grandchildren: Stella, Lily-Anne, Madeline and Claire. Her niece, Diane (Pete) and nephew, Brian (Donna) held a special place in their Aunt Betty's heart.

A celebration of life will be held at McCALL BROS. FLORAL

CHAPEL, Johnson and Vancouver Streets on Friday, March 20, 2009 at 2:00 p.m., a reception will follow in McCall's Family Centre

The family would like to thank the staff at the Kensington for the special relationship they shared with Betty over the past eleven years. Heartfelt thanks to Dr. Herbert Domke for providing exceptional care.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation or the charity of your choice.