

Joyce Evelyn Lightbody

Joyce (Joy) Evelyn Lightbody (nee England) died peacefully surrounded by her family. She is survived by her loving husband of 59 years, Keith; sister, Claire (Oskar); children, Kathy (Gord), Janet (Tej), Jim (Jackie), Karen, Ken; grandchildren, Matt (Cloe), Karly, Lauren, Dylan, Jenna, Sam, Wesley and Spencer; great grandchildren, Bridget and Dryden and niece, Carolyn.

Joy grew up in Montreal. In 1954, she ventured to Vancouver to see her Alouettes play the Lions in the Grey Cup. She was convinced to stay and work for a former boss at Sperry Gyroscope. In 1956, she met Keith, the love of her life. She loved telling the story of how she was dared to ask one of those handsome men at the next table to dance. Luckily, she chose Dad. They married in 1957 and moved with newborn Kathy to Victoria in 1958. In quick succession by 1964, they had 5 children. Despite the number of us, she was able to make each of us feel special – and made sure everything was equal.



Mum had boundless energy and you'd never see her sitting. She sewed and knitted her daughters' clothes with matching ones for their dolls. "Mrs. Lights" was an ardent fan at all our sporting events. She proudly celebrated our triumphs and gently consoled our disappointments.

Mum was never afraid of hard work. In 1967, she started part-time work in the children's wear at Simpson Sears where she often counselled new mothers. She continued working for 15 years.

Mum and Dad always enjoyed themselves and were the ultimate

hosts of many parties at their home or hotel room. In 1984, Keith retired and they began to travel. They went on many cruises and trips around the world with their involvement through the Shriners and jazz festivals.

Mum was a fighter. She survived a premature birth that the doctor proclaimed, "What a precious Joy." She lost her eyesight for about a year when she was young. She lost a lung to cancer in 1982, had two artificial hips, other cancers and health issues. Throughout her illnesses, she remained positive and courageous. Whenever she met anyone, she would always say, "I'm dead on the left side – no hip, no lung, and no eye."

Mum had a love for all animals, especially dogs that loved her back. She even taught our budgies to talk. She took great pleasure watching the birds, mostly the hummingbirds, feeding outside.

She was a generous, thoughtful classy lady with a great sense of humour. We will miss her so much, as she was the heart and soul of our family.

The family is thankful to the caring staff at the 8th Floor South RJH for making Mum's last days comfortable and to Anita Dennett for doing Mum's hair.

In lieu of flowers, donations to any wildlife or health agency would be an appropriate way to celebrate Joy's love of nature and giving.

A Celebration of Joy's life will be held at the Pro Patria Legion #292, 411 Gorge Road East on Sunday, August 28th from 2 pm to 5 pm.

Condolences may be offered to the family below.

McCall Gardens

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