Margaret (Margarete) Eleanor Gilstein

Margarete passed away peacefully on May 29, 2016. Born in Saskatchewan on January 26, 1919, Mom's early life was on a Meota farm. During her teens, her father found work in Victoria and the family followed. Mom found her paradise! She married a handsome Norwegian, Andrew Gilstein (Andreas Gjelstein), and led an exciting, happy life. They initiated the purchase of Norway House and became Charter Lodge Members of Eidsvold #53, Sons of Norway. While raising a family, they formed a Norwegian "Leikarring" folk dance group, instructing for 30 years. Many concerts featured local artists and their three children performing with their accordions. Son, Rolf, was inspired to become a cellist and fulfill a career in the New Zealand String Quartet. Mom was very active and took pride in mentoring many throughout her life. Her love of

gardening brought joy to all. The family's stone covered garage with grass roof soon became an attraction. Her youthful spirit embraced too many interests to mention. Some lifelong pursuits were dancing, painting, bridge and the Victoria Lawn Bowling Club. Andy passed away in 1991 after 51 years of marriage. In 1995, Mom married Julius Sather, a dear family friend since the 1950's. They enjoyed common interests and sadly, Julius passed away in 2009. Mom remained youthful through varied activities and her

passion for gardening. In 2011, at the age of 92, Mom walked 3.3km (2miles) in the Victoria Day Parade and then walked back to the starting point.

She is lovingly remembered by daughters, Eleanor Gjelsten and Freida (Finn) Eriksen; son, Rolf Gjelsten (Helene Pohl); grandchildren, Drew Eriksen, Trina Eriksen and Peter Gjelsten; stepdaughters, Lori Sather and Valerie Comber; stepson, Don Sather; stepgrandchildren, Kody Williamson, Ali Comber and Troy Comber; also extended family in Canada, Norway and England.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Norway House, 1110 Hillside Avenue, on Saturday, July 23rd from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations to “Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada” (Margarete Gilstein Memorial Bursary) c/o Eidsvold #53, 1110 Hillside Avenue, Victoria, BC V8T 4A7 or the Heart and Stroke Foundation, 106 – 1001 Cloverdale Avenue, Victoria, BC, V8X 4C9 would be appreciated.

The family wishes to thank the amazing caregivers especially the best doctor in town, Dr. Michael Miles. We would also like to thank Jimmy for helping Mom so much these last couple of years and thank you McCall’s Funeral Home for your special care.

These links show our Mom.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxIE3n1lVcY

Condolences may be offered to the family below.

McCall’s Funeral Home
www.mccallbros.com