

Vera Joyce Watts

1923-2014

Joyce's journey started near the Welsh border and ended at hospice in Victoria on March 12th. After growing up in Birmingham, Joyce chose a nursing career, training in London during the war and later learning midwifery. She delivered babies in Edinburgh before emigrating to Rhodesia to teach midwifery skills to the local nurses in Bulawayo. In Africa, Joyce met and married Doug, a marriage that would last over 55 years until his passing in 2008. Leaving Africa for Canada, Joyce and Doug arrived to an Edmonton winter. In 1957, they settled in Victoria, their home for the rest of their lives. Joyce was kept busy with four active children, an old house, a very large garden, and her duties as the wife of an alderman/mayor. This left little time for herself, although she enjoyed gardening, wine making, reading or just chatting over a cup of tea. Once the children started to leave home, Doug and Joyce found time to travel, visiting England, Europe, Russia, New Zealand and Australia. Doug's recurring health problems meant Joyce spent many years helping him as his health declined. Just as she had always been there for her children, she was there for Doug. After his passing in 2008, she moved into the Glenshiel where she enjoyed outings and cards with her pals, and visits from family and friends.

Joyce is survived by her children Sheilagh (Eric), Brian (Louise), Ralph (Eda) and Linda (Dave), her granddaughters Hailey (Matt), Lindsay (Ben) and Kelsey, and her great-grandson Kelly. She leaves family and friends in the UK and other parts of the world.

A memorial service will be held in the chapel at St. Mary's Church, 1701 Elgin Street at 1pm on Monday, March 31st. A short reception will follow. In lieu of flowers, please

donate to your favourite charity.

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