

others had tried and failed. It did help that Rita was committed to finishing her degree at UBC, and couldn't request a transfer!!!

Soon after marrying, they bought three newly logged acres in Campbell River. Mum would tell the story of asking dad to bring a shovel along when they went to inspect the land for the first time. When dad asked why, she said, 'If I find one rock, we don't want to buy it!'. A Saskatchewan girl, through and through, she did not want to grow things in soil full of rocks. Her decision paid off and the acres of vegetable garden she maintained provided much food, pain, and joy for her children, and later, her grandchildren.

Bubs also found great joy in growing flowers all over their property, and creating beautiful crafted projects with her family. Since the 'To Do List' of chores never ended, Rita and Bob found refreshing by taking afternoon or summer breaks outdoors to go canoeing, and camping with family... but only if the pantry, the freezers, and the canning shelves were stocked for the next winter.

Throughout Rita's entire life, she held an unwavering belief in God, but it wasn't until this last year, and she began to hunger for more. Small changes in priorities showed she wanted to make time to attend church with family at home. When asked, she told Sandra one day, that Jesus was in her heart. The fear that had tried to torment her of not measuring up, of not being a good enough mother, of not protecting her family well enough... those fears began to lose their power to bother her. Of course, her new love of helicopters, and providing for others through that resource was a source of delight to her. Imagine getting her license at her age, in one night!!! What a surprise to us all!

Rita has joined her grandson Mark, and other waiting family in Heaven. We deeply suspect that they are now busy planting flowers all over, now that she is back to full health, youth and energy!!! In fact, God should have warned the others to brace for her arrival, adventures and enthusiasm!

DALMENY
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Rita Hurley

July 30, 1934 - April 13, 2021

April 18, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

Dalmeny Funeral Home

Dalmeny, Saskatchewan

Rita Hurley - Life Story

It is with profound sadness, and joy, that we announce the passing of Rita Annie Hurley, age 86, who departed her loving family on April 13, 2021. After the heart attack on Saturday, it was discovered that she had such extensive blockages in her veins, that no surgery was possible. Still, we prayed, and Rita fought to live and spend a few more days with her family. From Saturday to Tuesday we as family had precious time visiting with her. She delighted in the idea of going with Sandra to fill the truck cab with flowers to plant in the yard again this spring. Far away family had that window of time, to call to tell Rita just how much they loved her. How wonderful that we had the opportunity to tell her, that she was the mum we would have chosen if we'd been given the chance.

Now she must be busy creating beauty in heaven's gardens; exploring them with her grandson Mark, and her other family that have already made their way there. We are pretty sure she will be getting glimpses of what we are up to, and delegating angels to give us messages to make sure Bob is doing his exercises, and that we are taking care of each other.

Rita (or Bubs to her family) was born on July 31, 1934 to Rita and Orlan Brydges, and was the fourth of 13 siblings. She was Married to Robert Arnold Hurley on July 18, 1962 in Edam, SK. They have four daughters; Dawn, Linda, Sandra and Heather, and now their grandchildren are an essential legacy of blessing. In a joyous turn of events she and Bob went from having no grandchildren, to 12 in just 9 years!

So.... lets have 'THE LIST': Dawn (& Murray)'s children; Natasha, Joshua, Miranda, and Micah. Sandra (& Greg)'s; Jacob, Luke, Rebekah, and Mark who went ahead for Grandma in heaven. Heather (& Ryan)'s children; Raylene, Vanessa, Marshal, and Chantal. Linda cheated, and with marriage to Peter, was blessed with five mostly grown children; Bryan, Rachel, Lisa, Amy, Brad, and four grandchildren; Dani, Liam, Emmerson, and Amelia.

Aside from her children and her husband Bob, Rita is survived by her siblings Neville Brydges, Dorothy Roach, Ted (Sharon) Brydges, Darlene L'heureux, Wanda (Brian) Toulelan, and Byron Brydges. Aunty

Bubs loved well, and was well loved by her many nieces and nephews, and she delighted to include them in whatever adventures she could create.

After high school Rita taught 19 children for a year in a one room school house. Then at St. Paul's in Saskatoon, for three years under the tutelage of the Gray Nuns, she earned her RN. One of their famous sayings to her was "You must sacrifice my dear." Well, Rita must have taken that to heart. Those who know her and love her, know that for those under her care, sacrifice was not questioned if she thought it was for the good of those she loved.

She relayed many wonderful stories to her family of her adventures as a nurse with the department of Indian Health, in Northern SK, and BC. She told us about being dumped out of a dog sled in the winter, whenever her guide was afraid that she might fall asleep in the cold, and then ordering her to run to keep up so she wouldn't freeze to death! She regaled us with the story of how she delivered a baby in a small 4 seater float plane when they couldn't reach the airport in time. This amazing woman that we knew as Grandma, or Mum, or Bubs, has personally delivered over three hundred babies in the course of her career, and had the honour of being the namesake for many of them. And in the midst of her work duties, those she worked with returned her care with special ways to delight her. One of her favourite memories was the once in a lifetime invitation by her Indian friend and guide, to take her to a secret location by canoe into the middle of nowhere. He knew her love of flowers, and told her wondrous stories of a meadow of wild pink lady slippers, and she arrived to find it even more beautiful than she could dream of.

These stories shaped our values, and helped form our work ethic and our family structures. Through these stories we came to love and respect others, and learn life lessons. All her life, Rita was a natural teacher, who sought to protect, and enable others to gain life skills to help them thrive. She did this as a sister, a nurse, a mother, and whatever other circumstance she was in.

While enrolled at UBC to finish her degree, through her sister Fran in Campbell River, Rita met her husband Bob, and they were married July 18, 1962. Bob's dry humour, even temper, patience, quiet confidence, and his ability to tackle challenges won his bride where