



Nora Alice Hughes, February 8, 1942 - August 3, 2010

Nora passed away quietly in her sleep. At her side were her husband Keith, her daughter Robin, and her sons Kelly and Brad. After fighting her long illness, she is finally at peace.

Nora was born in North Vancouver. She grew up with her family at the Woodhead Brothers logging camp at Maple Bay on the northern end of Texada Island. She began her schooling in the old Elks hall in Van Anda, proceeded through a new primary school in Van Anda, and finished at a new school in Blubber Bay. She never finished school because she met and captured an immigrant from Alberta named Keith and they were married on December 15, 1957. Nora was a stay-at-home mom while her children were growing up and attending school. During this time Nora and family moved up to Armstrong, BC, where milking cows was the game, then to Salmon Arm to pump gas at the family's service station, and back to Texada where Keith went to work at Texada Iron Mines. For the next 15 years, Nora participated in all phases of island life: drama club, diving club, played ball, packed huck brush, waited tables at the hotel, et cetera. The boys came along during this period and the kids grew and started school. Nora was always there when they got home. With the imminent closing of the iron mine, the family moved briefly to Logan Lake, and thence to Prince George, where Keith went to work for the Ministry of Mines. It was here Nora went back to school, became a hair stylist, and established an excellent career. In 1988, Keith retired and in 1992 he and Nora moved back to their old home on the Old Woodland Farm on Texada. Many islanders will remember Nora and her travelling salon. One of the happiest periods in her life was those years in which she paddled dragon boats with the Paddling for Life club. The many friends she made and the camaraderie that existed were a great source of comfort and inspiration. She kept at it until she could go on no more.

She will be remembered for her lust for life and her ability to see the bright side when things became dark. Many young people will remember her for being there when they appeared to be losing their way. She loved her family. She loved her friends. She loved life. She fought a long battle. She fought hard. She never complained. She never quit. She is sorely missed.

She is survived by her husband of 52 years, Keith; her daughter Robin (Stan) Dennis; sons Kelly (Julie) and Brad (Dawn); grandchildren Stephen Dennis, Nolan, Courtney and Michelle Hughes, the daughters of Dawn Hughes; Jamie and Sarah Venables; brothers David (Lydia) and Bill (Maureen) Woodhead; sister Cecilie (Glen) Headrick; aunts Margaret and Frieda Woodhead; and nine nieces and nephews and their families.

You never quit. Your body may be gone, but your spirit remains forever. We all love you.

A memorial service for Nora will be held at 2 pm on Sunday, August 22 at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 232 in Van Anda.