



GODDARD, Joan Marie (Gonnason)

Joan Marie (Gonnason) Goddard died on December 8, 2015, in Victoria, BC after a long struggle with Alzheimer's disease. She was born on October 10, 1928 in Victoria to Carl Seymour Gonnason and Dora Evelyn Emma (Rolls) Gonnason, a pioneer Victoria family who co-owned one of the first lumber mills in Victoria. Joan grew up on Dallas Road in Victoria, graduating Victoria High in 1946. She attended Victoria College (later University of Victoria) when it was held at Craigdarroch Castle. After transferring to Vancouver to the University of British Columbia, she earned a Bachelor of Science in 1950. Her training in Entomology led to her working at a forest insect station. She was set to continue graduate studies in England when her plans changed after meeting her future husband. Joan married Jewel Goddard in 1951 after they met through their respective college's foreign student clubs. They married in Victoria then moved to Berkeley, and Joan worked at the California Academy of Sciences. They had two children, Ann and Jim Goddard. Later moves took the family to Eugene, Oregon, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Portland, Oregon. Joan was naturalized a U.S. citizen in 1960, and from her citizenship classes she drew an abiding interest in civics and history which drew her to activity in the League of Women Voters and ultimately researching and writing a book on Indians in Minnesota. After divorcing in 1988, Joan moved back to Victoria to care for her sister, Peggy. Researching family history, she got interested in the social history of the B.C. whaling stations, and spent many years interviewing, writing and speaking on the topic all over the world. She culminated her research with a book, "A Window on Whaling in British Columbia". Joan was predeceased by her parents Dora and Carl Gonnason and her sister Peggy Gonnason. She is survived by her sister Sharon (Gil) Cordova of Sherwood, Oregon; her ex-husband Jewel (Kris) Goddard of Olympia, Washington; her children Jim Goddard of Denver, Colorado and his two children Wyatt and Sawyer Goddard; Ann Goddard of Seal Rock, Oregon and her children Jesse (Sara) Goddard-Trenholm of Springfield, Oregon and their daughter Emma; and Heidi Goddard Trenholm of New York, NY. Funeral services will be held at Christ Church Cathedral, 930 Burdett Avenue in Victoria on Monday, December 14, at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, Joan suggested a donation to a charity of your choice; The Mustard Seed of Victoria was one of her favorite charities. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.mccallbros.com.

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