

NERLAND, Sheila Gertrude Brand (nee Chambers)

Sheila was born in Vancouver, BC on December 28, 1922 and passed away in Vancouver, surrounded by the love of her children, on May 10, 2013. Sheila was born the middle child of Earl and Minnie. She came into this world on her father's birthday and he maintained it was the best birthday gift he ever received. Her first years were spent in Alert Bay, where her family ran the general store and a fish cannery. The Chamber's general store was a real hub for the community. For most of the 1920s, Sheila and her family enjoyed the many joys of living in Alert Bay, including the rich First Nations culture and the spectacular natural environment of Vancouver Island's West Coast. As a child, Sheila spent many happy hours exploring nature. She recalled with great fondness the adventures that she shared with her younger brother Gordon, including climbing "the big rock." The family moved to Victoria when Sheila was 9 where she embarked on the more staid existence of an urban young lady. She graduated from Victoria High School. Sheila found clerical work with the BC Electric Company after high school and in 1946, met and married dashing WW2 Air Force officer Palmer Nerland. They moved to Vancouver, settling in Kerrisdale where they raised their family. Sheila had a vibrant, strong personality and was a keen participant in all she did. She enjoyed an active social life, participating in bridge clubs and bowling leagues, and playing bingo and badminton. An avid anglophile and royalist, she travelled to the UK to visit extended family in England and Scotland. Further travels took her to destinations in Asia. Most Sundays, Sheila could be found hosting a weekly family dinner. Always fond of entertaining, she would welcome any number of friends and family into her home. Although she was an excellent cook, her real talent lay in her baking. Sheila was an outstanding pastry chef, making much-loved pies and baked goods. Sheila's legendary abilities with such sweet things created a love of pies in all her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Sheila spent the last two years living at St. Jude's Anglican home, where she continued her career as an avid bingo player. She thoroughly enjoyed her time at St. Jude's, and her family would like to thank the team at St. Jude's for their truly remarkable care and compassion. Sheila is survived by her five children, Sheila, Craig, Phil (Sara), Cynthia (Bernard), and Bruce (Diane); her nine grandchildren, Shannon, Andrea, Eric, Krista, Jackson, Samuel, Zachary, Lauryn, and Tessa; her two great-grandchildren, Dominic and Gabriella; her brother and good friend Gordon (Maggie); and her many nieces and nephews. A memorial gathering will be held at Point Grey Golf & Country club on June 9, 2013 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. In lieu of

flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to St. Jude's Anglican Home online at <http://stjudes.bc.ca/index.php?id=donations>.

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- See more at:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/vancouver/sun/obituary.aspx?pid=164841990#sthash.2GLDKC11.dpuf>