



**BATES, Joan Margaret (Semple) (1951)**

**October 12, 1932 - March 18, 2021**

Joan, a daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother. Family and friends are saddened by her passing, peacefully at RJH Victoria. Joan was predeceased by her spouse Wilfred Bates, and brother, Charles Semple. Joan is survived by her children Murray (Sheree), Cathryn (Chris), Nancy (Kelly), Brian and dog Cabo; grandchildren Rachelle (Dave), Daniel (Kennedy), Tyler (Kaneasha), Brock (Tara), Brandon, Kyla (Brandon) and great-grandchildren Cooper and Addison. She also had a large extended family on and off the island. Joan (General Grandma), had a special place in her heart for her family whom she was very proud of, and she

loved having everyone gather together. Joan was the 3rd generation born and raised in Victoria and grew up in the Fairfield area. Her children (4th gen), grandchildren (5th Gen) and great-grandchildren (6th Gen) continue to reside in Victoria. In 1950 Joan left Victoria High to begin her career with the Federal Government. In 1961 she left the workforce to stay home and raise her four children. In 1975 Joan once again joined the workforce with the Victoria School board, and then returned to the Federal Government until her retirement in 1986. During their life together, Joan and Wilf were very involved in the Optimists, Odd Fellows, Masonic and Shrine affiliate Associations. They enjoyed many road trips, and assisted with special events and fundraising for these groups. Many very meaningful friendships were made over the years. Joan joined Royal Oak Golf club and became an avid golfer where she won many awards and travelled the island enjoying the game. Her retired life was filled with much love as she got to watch her grandchildren grow. She was very proud of each and every one of them, and she would attend as many of the sporting and school events as she could. Joan would like a special mention made to her children's friends and the young people she worked with, as she was pleased with the love and respect they always showed her. To Brian's friends; you were always very courteous during the many overnight stays, even Buddy and Bear. She was also thankful for her special friendships with Audrey and her aunt Teresa, for their kindness and care throughout the years. Joan was very fortunate to have many friends and special people in her life, some going back to 1939. She enjoyed her lunch dates with the bowling ladies, Uplands ladies, the Vic High school group, Royal Oak golf group, and the work colleagues (Gabby Girl ladies). Joan's family would especially like to thank Norma Powel, for all the love and friendship she provided their mother throughout their 82 year friendship. They would also like to thank Joanne and Dr Downs and all the staff at RJH who cared for her. We all appreciate the care given to Joan during these times when we were unable to be there. A graveside was held on March 25, 2021 where Joan was laid to rest next to her beloved husband Wilfred at Hatley Memorial Gardens.

Published by Victoria Times Colonist from Mar. 26 to Mar. 28, 2021.