

Norma Irene Mickelson (nee Matthews) (1944) C.M., O.B.C., PhD

November 5th, 1926 - December 1st, 2022

Norma has now moved on to the next stage of her spiritual journey. She was born to Iva and Seymour Matthews in Victoria and lived mostly in her beloved native city. She was predeceased by her mother and father, her wonderful husband Harvey with whom she shared sixty-two years of marriage, and her brother Elmer (Donna). She is survived by her beloved family which included her two children: Rick (Lynne), Ann (Mike), four grandchildren: Ty (Joanna), Larla, Caleb (Michelle), Galen (Kevin) and seven great-grandchildren: Spencer, Grace, Zoey, Emma, Oliver, Avy and Isla.

Norma attended Quadra Elementary School, Victoria High School, Victoria College, Victoria Normal School, the University of Victoria, U.B.C and the University of Washington. She began her career as a teacher at South Park School in Victoria, taught in Vancouver and at John Stubbs in Victoria and was the Supervisor of Education in both the Sooke and Saanich School Districts. She then had a wonderful career at the University of Victoria where she was a member of the Board of Governors and the Senate, a Professor and Assistant to the President for Status of Women Issues. She was elected to the position of Chancellor and served in that office for six years.

Among her awards were the Order of Canada, the Order of BC, Honorary Citizen of Victoria, Queen's Canada 125 Medal, University of Victoria's Distinguished Alumnae Award, Women of Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award, Queen's Jubilee Medal and Honorary Degrees from the University of Victoria and the University of Calgary. For her work on behalf of women she received the National Sarah Shorten Award.

Among her community contributions were: member of Joint Board of Teacher Education, member of Provincial Steering Committee on Education, Chair, Board of Directors of the BC Assessment Authority, member of the Victoria Music Festival Board, member of United Way, President of PEO, Chapter AB and member of the Victoria Hospice Board.

Norma was a Professor Emeritus, lived for the past several years at Shannon Oaks and remained active with civic, provincial and national interests.

If desired, contributions may be made in Norma's memory to the University of Victoria's Norma Mickelson's Scholarship Fund.

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