



Geraldine Smith (1941)

Our beloved Auntie, Geraldine (Gerry) Smith passed away peacefully in Victoria, BC on November 26, 2023, at the age of 98. The eldest of three children, Gerry was born on October 1, 1925, to loving parents Donald and Maude (Creech) Smith.

Gerry is predeceased by her sister and brother-in-law Pat and Bob Reid and her brother and sister-in-law Gordon and Betty Smith. Gerry is survived by her nieces and nephews: Jim (Alix Kent) Reid, Andy (Tania Rolland) Reid, Caroline (Rudy) Walraven, Sherri Polkinghorne, Cheryl Smith, Robert (Deborah) Reid, Brent Smith, Will (Lisa) Reid, Kathy Reid, Kelli (Randy Alexander) Reid, Leah (Kevin Lister) Smith and 21

great nieces and nephews, two great grand nieces and one great grand nephew.

Gerry attended Sir James Douglas Elementary School, Central Junior High School and Victoria High School. In 1946 she began working for Spencer's Department Store. Two years later Gerry began her lengthy, 42 year career with Eaton's when they bought out Spencer's retail chain. While working in the Order Processing Department she made many friends and was greatly missed upon her retirement in 1990.

Gerry's parents bought a vacant lot on Carnsew Street in the Fairfield neighbourhood of Victoria and built a home which they moved into in 1949. Gerry continued living in that same house for over 72 years! Her family all share so many wonderful memories of time spent in this home. Family and friends were always made to feel welcomed and were well taken care of as Gerry made sure her guests had their fill of refreshments! Gerry was known for her cookies. Her friends, family, co-workers, and neighbours all benefited from her many hours spent making sugar cookies. She used her large cookie cutter collection to celebrate the different seasons and holidays.

Words that describe Gerry include extremely kind, caring, considerate, thoughtful, gracious, beautiful, happy, compassionate, stylish, endlessly energetic and loving. She loved her family. She was always there to offer support wherever needed. She participated in and enjoyed all family gatherings and celebrations as well as attending countless sporting events, dance and music recitals, school concerts and plays.

She loved being at the beach, reading mystery novels, relaxing on her deck, eating lunch at The Dutch Bakery, and buying ice cream cones at The Beacon Drive In; ginger ale, mints, coffee, and hot toddies were also perennial favourites.

She loved travelling and enjoyed visiting new cities, countries, and cultures. She especially enjoyed her times visiting Hong Kong where Pat and Bob lived for 3 years. Gerry and her sister (and best friend) Pat, filled their days exploring, shopping, going for lunch, and visiting the many lovely hotel lounges for happy hour. We are sure there are more than a few tales to tell but we will save those for another time. Gerry enjoyed gardening and after retiring she joined The Friends of Government House Gardens Society and spent many happy hours volunteering in the beautiful gardens and meeting new friends.

The family would like to thank Andy for enabling Auntie to remain in her home for as long as she did, Robert for looking after all the details of Auntie's life, and the caring staff at Mount St. Mary's. A private celebration of life will be held in the new year.

Thank you, Auntie, for gracing us with your presence for so many years. You enriched our lives in so many ways and you will be forever in our hearts.

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