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Living Skies Regional Council of
The United Church of Canada
February 16, 2021

Betty Powell February 7, 2021



It is with great sadness that the family of Betty Powell announces her passing on February 7, 2021 with her family by her side, at the home of her daughter Catherine. She is lovingly remembered by her husband of 53 years, Tom, daughters Catherine Powell (Brian Pozniak) and Jennifer Brookman (Aaron), grandchildren Alysha and Matthew Forester and Adam Brookman, sisters-in-law Marilyn Marven and Evelyn Powell, brother-in-law Douglas Powell, nieces and nephews, and great-nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents, William in 1988 and Winnifred in 2000, father-in-law Dwight Powell in 2005, mother-in-law Mary Powell in 2009, and brother-in-law David Marven in 2019.

Betty was born in 1943 in Arborfield, Saskatchewan. She attended high school in Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan, and obtained a Bachelor of Education from the University of Saskatchewan. She made life-long friends and memories at her first teaching position at the rural high school in Prince Albert where she taught English, French, and Drama. She and Tom married in 1967, and made their first home in Edmonton, Alberta where she taught junior high school while he finished his university degrees. In 1969, they moved to Leader where Tom was settled by The United Church of Canada. In 1970, daughter Cathy was born, and in 1972 after moving to Outlook, daughter Jennifer was added to the family. Betty was kept busy raising the girls, being active in the church and running the family's business, Powell's Male Shop, with Tom until the family moved to Regina in 1975. In Regina, Betty worked teaching preschool and later as school secretary and librarian at Coronation Park School. In 1986, the family moved again, this time to North Battleford. With the girls being older, Betty resumed teaching, and worked at two schools across the river in Battleford. Tom and Betty's final move was in 1990 to Saskatoon. At the time of her retirement in 1999, Betty worked for the Saskatchewan Federation of Home and School Associations. Through all these moves, she demonstrated her incredible inner strength, resilience, and ability to make the best of any situation.

Betty's main purpose in life was always to provide a loving home for her family, and she succeeded! There were many wonderful family dinners, birthday parties, holidays, family reunions, weddings, and baptisms that she organized and often catered. Cathy and Jennifer always knew she would be there to lend an ear, a hand, a spare bedroom for as long as they wanted, or anything else they might need. She was present at the births of two of her three grandchildren and loved rocking all of them as babies, reading stories, playing house, and having them sleep over. She provided grandma day care and took them to preschool. Betty attended as many of her grandchildren's activities as she could, from music festival and football, soccer, and hockey games, to piano and dance recitals, high school drama productions and band concerts. The family cabin at Candle Lake, originally purchased by her parents in 1972, was a special place for Betty, and many fond memories were made there.

Betty was a talented pianist and organist; those abilities played a big part in how she and Tom met each other. She was skilled with a needle, avidly pursuing sewing, quilting, stitchery, knitting and crocheting, and she shared her handmade gifts with many. Her terrific cooking was appreciated by family, friends, and even complete strangers throughout her years. Betty and Tom loved to travel, and explored many interesting places, both near and far. She inherited a love of gardening from her parents, and created beautiful yards wherever the family lived. She was kind, compassionate, wise, patient, and showed grace under pressure.

In 2016, Betty and family received the devastating diagnosis that she had Alzheimer's Disease. In 2019, she moved to Oliver Lodge where she lived until the final days of her life. The family would like to thank the staff at Oliver Lodge for their loving care of Betty.

In lieu of flowers, donations will be gratefully accepted by the Alzheimer's Society of Saskatchewan, Oliver Lodge, or McClure United Church.

To join in the livestream of the service on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 3:00pm, visit:
<http://distantlink.com/dlm30obs.html>

For assistance, call (306) 477-4400

Arrangements entrusted to Hillcrest Funeral Home, Saskatoon