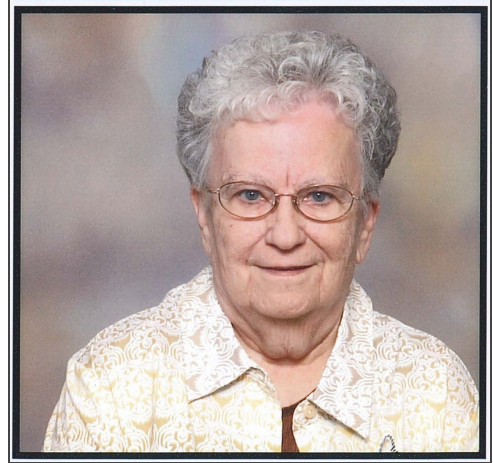


# Maxine Smith (nee Thompson)

JULY 16, 2022



Maxine Smith (nee Thompson) was born June 21, 1943, in Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan, and was the youngest of five siblings. The family farmed in the Gravelbourg area and then moved to Bateman when Maxine was still a child. Attending school in Bateman, the teacher used to send Maxine home during recess to have something to eat because she was so tiny! Although she 'grew up', she never stopped being tiny and forever needing stools to reach things in cupboards - to the endless good-natured teasing of her family. Nobody that knew Maxine would underestimate her because of her size however; she may have been short, but she was also feisty and strong-willed, always accomplishing what she set out to do.

Maxine eventually left home to attend the Regina Teacher's College, which would allow her to fulfill her dreams of a career working with children. Maxine loved kids - from teaching young grades in Glen Bain, Halbrite, and Midale, to raising her own children, to working as a Child Development Worker for Manitoba Social Services, to providing respite care to special needs children and their families in Spy Hill, to running a daycare in Regina - children delighted her. Even when at her most ill, a picture or video of one of the kids would make her light up and smile!

Maxine passed peacefully on the morning of Saturday, July 16th in Regina, with her beloved husband Ian at her side - just as he always has been for their nearly 60 years together. Maxine and Ian met through Maxine's sister when she and Maxine took pity on a couple of boys away from home and invited them over for supper.

Ian asked Maxine to go to a dance with him that very night, but when the dance was cancelled, they instead drove around for hours just talking and enjoying each other's company. They had no idea at that time that they were both headed to the same Teacher's College; it was fate - they arrived at school and were placed in the same class! They married two years later, on August 21, 1964, and began an adventure together that would see them happily raise their four children and eventually welcome six grandchildren and then five great-grandchildren.

Mourning along with Ian are son Richard, his wife Tammy, and their kids Jason, Mel (Melanie), and Amy (Regan) Mohr, Jason's children Austin and Hailey, and Amy's children Tegan and Rye-Rye; son Cory, his wife Joy, and their kids Natasha (Alan) Worfolk and Jordan, and Natasha and Alan's son Logan; daughter Linda; son Trevor and Trevor's son Jordan Louis, as well as many others in both Maxine and Ian's extended families. Maxine welcomed her daughters-in-law like they were her own, and always had a smile and a chair for a visit with any of her children - but of course, nobody could hold a candle to the grandkids when they arrived!

Coming from a large family meant that there were also many siblings, in-laws, 'out-laws', nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins that were a special part of Maxine's life and who were as loved as immediate family, and her door was always open for their visits. It was often a big group at the weekly 'Sunday Supper' with various members of the family coming by to celebrate events or birthdays, or just to pass the potatoes and share the week's news. There was an even larger group for Boxing Day suppers, when the tables took up the whole living room and everyone had a tight fit filing into place before tucking into the amazing feast prepared by Maxine and Ian for absolutely anyone that could attend. It was Maxine's nature to surround herself with family and friends, feed lavishly, laugh often, and love unreservedly.

Maxine generously gave so much of herself to all of us. Her students and her childcare kids remembered her long after they left her classroom or her house, and she always had funny stories to share about the latest antics of one child or another. Everyone in the family has some of her 'fancy work'; the blankets or pillowcases or tablecloths thoughtfully chosen and lovingly embroidered for our homes. She was a loving wife, a devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, and a genuinely happy and lovely person to have in our lives. We will all miss her terribly.

The family will have a private interment in Bateman, SK.

## Messages of Condolence

I will always miss you. I enjoyed our visits with you and Ian. Watching you do your fancy work. Having a meal and enjoy the laughs we always had. love ☐ always  
Barb

— **Barbpaton**

My sincere sympathy to Ian and Family on the passing of a Dear Lady — Maxine

— **Dianne Kirby**

"Mrs. Smith" patiently taught me embroidery and though she must have despaired at my ham hands, she never lost patience.

My condolences to the family.

— **Keoma Duce**

So very sorry to hear about Maxine. I remember spending time/visiting with her when you lived in Spy Hill. My sympathies to Ian and family

— **Marlene Hedley**

Ian and family,

How sad to hear of Maxine's passing. I certainly enjoyed my SpyHill years . When I couldn't work I was appreciative of Maxine filling in for me as I knew my students were in good hands.

We don't "get over" the death of a loved one. Those that believe that time heals are sadly mistaken. Nothing is ever the same again .

Some days we can talk about the deceased without issue and other days thoughts alone bring tears. Know that your reactions are normal and on the difficult days be gentle with yourself.

Be well,

Bev

— **Bev Cook**

So sorry to hear the news of Maxine. We have so many memories of being neighbors in Spy Hill for many years. Condolences from the Lawrence family.

— **Tracy (Lawrence) Worby**

Our sympathy to Ian and the family. Sorry to hear Maxine passed away. We have many great memories of being neighbors with you in Halbrite. And then visits when you moved to Midale. Maxine always had coffee ready. We were happy to get a visit with you on your 50th anniversary and to see the family again. Condolences to all of you.

— **Fay and Don Schmidt**

Our sincere condolences to Ian and family. We were close with Maxine and Ian as we lived across McCarthy Blvd from them and both our kids stayed with them during the day. They have many good memories of Maxine and what a kind lady she was.

— **Michelle, Jon, Cadence and Tristan Howe**

Dear Ian and family

I send my deepest condolences to you as I think of Maxine. She was so special. Bob and I enjoyed our visits and times with your family when we lived in Halbrite and Midale. Xv

— **Ruth Thue**

Our fond memories of Maxine go back to 1968 in Hazlet. If Ian sees this message we'd love to hear from him after such a long time

— **David Boardman**



<https://www.myalternatives.ca/obituaries/smith-nee-thompson-maxine>

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