

# Ruth Rose Yaskow

SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved “Nan” Ruth Yaskow. She passed away peacefully on Friday, September 30, 2022 at the age of 88 years. Ruth is predeceased by her parents Peter and Helen, her brother Mike and her husband Lionel. She is survived by her brothers Jonny and David as well as her sisters Elsie and Joyce. Ruth leaves to mourn her sons Ivan (Laurie), Bryan (Cindy), Kevin (Lisa); her daughters Marlene (Andy) and Kathy; her grandchildren Justin, Bryce, Tara, Leah, Jenna, Tianna, Jaycee, Lindsay, Danielle and Tyler; and her great-grandchildren Maddison, Janae, Parker, Brystan, Brody, Chloe, Ava, Ellie, Hunter and Brooklyn.



Its hard to believe Ruth is no longer with us, our centre, supporter and matriarch. Nan’s greatest joy was her family and the pride and happiness her grandchildren gave her. She was warm and giving, never wanting to talk about herself, focusing the conversation on you and your life. She leaves fond memories of her gardening, her flowers, picking berries, country music playing in the kitchen, her homemade chicken noodle soup and awesome Christmas Eves.

Ruth was our beloved matriarch who loved nothing more than a houseful of noisy family. She was also a valued friend to those who knew her.

A Private Family Graveside Service will be held.

**As We Look Back** As we look back over time We find ourselves wondering... Did we remember to thank you enough For all you have done for us? For all the time you were by our sides To help and support us... To celebrate our successes To understand our problems And accept our defeats? Or for teaching us by your example, The value of hard work, good judgement, Courage and integrity? We wonder if we ever thanked you For the sacrifices you made To let us have the very best? And for the simple things Like laughter, smiles and times we shared? If we have forgotten to show our Gratitude enough for all the things you did, We are thanking you now. And we are hoping that you knew all along, How much you meant to us. - Clare Jones -

## Messages of Condolence

Ruth and I spent time having tea or coffee at her house and talking about families and looking over my Avon products . Although I have not seen her for quite a while I remember fondly our times together and what a wonderful person she was ! My condolences to her whole family.

— **Gloria Reeder(Grandel)**

When I thought about what to write, so many memories came to mind, I didn't know where to begin. Memories of a photo of little Brian, Marlene and my brother Len standing for a picture. My brother, with a large head that he eventually grew into, forever thereafter became known as Pumpkin Head. This, of course, I passed along to my niece and nephews...much to his chagrin. A taste of homemade chocolate cake with white icing and sprinkles on top. Sprinkles were a foreign surprise and that memory comes to mind every time I sprinkle them on cupcakes. The taste of steak flavoured with garlic and a steak spice that was like dining out at a restaurant, as salt and pepper was as exotic as we had at home. A memory of Ruth working in her garden who took time to teach me the way of growing vegetables and flowers. The house on the corner that meant I only had one more block to walk before I got home. Yes kids...we did walk miles to and from school.

I was older than the rest of the gang, so I did not have a peer in the Yaskow family, but when my family moved to Edmonton and I stayed in Regina, Ruth was always someone I could visit to ground myself in a world where I was on my own at too early an age. I remember sitting in the living room, with snacks and coffee, watching some soap opera and discussing how life should go and the big Crown of Thorns plant that was always a topic of conversation. Ruth was my home away from home, my guardian when we were small when my mother was working two jobs and later my friend when I was far from my family.

My mother considered Ruth to be her best friend and that remained until her dying day and she would always sadly remark how much she missed Regina and her best friend Ruth.

When mom developed cancer and had already received radiation, Ruth came to visit. I don't know if Ruth thought it was a right time to visit, but to my mother it

couldn't have been a better time. The visit was filled with laughs and talk of old times. For a short time, my mother could forget about the frightening road ahead.

When my mother knew her time and ability to travel was nearing an end, she was determined to visit Ruth one more time. With painful knees and barely able to get up the steps, we took a Grey Hound. Unable to get on and off the bus in time for a bathroom break, she didn't drink or eat anything until we reached Saskatoon, where we had a wait for our connection to Regina. She never complained. She was focused on Regina and seeing Ruth again...one more time, maybe for the last time.

In our busy lives, we seldom stop and think about the people who have influenced us in life without them ever knowing it. People who are always with us when time and distance separates us. Ruth was one of those people. Memories of Ruth weaved in and out of my thoughts through out my years. My love of gardening began in that little garden in the back of the house on the corner. My love of cooking began with steak spice on a steak I ate many decades ago. And most importantly, finding a best friend for myself, like Ruth for my mom, that will be close to me until the end of my days.

I also remember Ruth's love of Sweet Peas and have grown them since our last visit with her. In the spring, after a long and bleak winter, from deep in the warming ground sprouts fallen seeds from summers past, like memories that warm our thoughts.

— **Louise D. Maryniak**



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