



REMEMBERING
Gwendolyn (Gwen) Monteith

December 30, 1936 - September 4, 2023



Gwendolyn (Gwen) Isobel Monteith, née McCormick

Dec. 30th, 1936 to Sept. 4th, 2023

Gwen's warm smile and lively personality was always welcome. She was a wonderful communicator and always interested in what was happening with you. Well-read and eager to learn more, she loved to share her knowledge and advice. We enjoyed her birthday wish emails that she always remembered every year which contained the latest news from her and Robert's adventures.

She was born in 1936 on a farm near Wyoming, Ontario. She attended Western University in London, Ontario for Commercial Arts and Education and was the first member of her family to complete university. She married John D. Monteith in 1957 in Wyoming, Ontario. They soon welcomed two daughters into their lives, Helen Christine and Marion Elizabeth. From the mid 60's to the mid 80's she was a well-respected teacher of Commercial Arts and Business Studies at Lambton College and high schools in Petrolia and Sarnia.

Gwen loved to travel and experience what the world had to offer. The family visited the Caribbean often and spent an adventurous 14 months in Australia. Gwen also held a private pilot's license and was a member of "The 99's" The International Organization of Women Pilots. She flew single engine prop airplanes for several years - just for fun!

In 1980, Gwen moved to Calgary to pursue a new life on her own and to work in the oil transportation industry. It was there that Gwen met Robert Klei. During their 44 year relationship, they enjoyed many adventures together, camping, hiking, biking,

as well as two adventures that took her back to their beloved Australia. She often assisted Robert with his business called the Flower Cottage in Calgary, while also privately tutoring in English as a Second Language. In 1999, they moved to Osoyoos where Robert opened Osoyoos Gelato, later known as Roberto's Gelato, where Gwen enjoyed greeting customers and taste testing all of Robert's delicious creations.

Gwen was active on the Osoyoos Water Conservation Board for many years. And was a board member of the International Joint Commission. She was also engaged in the workings of local government and attended many council meetings to stay informed on what was happening in the community. She wasn't all work though; she and Robert enjoyed many a hot evening enjoying the beaches of Lake Osoyoos. Her daughters were impressed with Gwen's skill at Tai Chi, which she practiced for many years. For the past dozen or so years, she and Robert enjoyed the warmth of La Paz, in the Baja during the winter.

Gwen and her big heart decided to 'go on ahead' on Monday, September 4, 2023. She lived well and loved well. We'll hear the echo of her laughter in the summer breeze and her light will guide us in the dark. We will all miss her terribly.

According to Gwen's wishes, she was quietly cremated and her ashes have been scattered. There will not be a memorial but the family invites you to share memories of her here.

