



REMEMBERING
Linda Florence

February 3, 1943 - April 16, 2016



Linda died peacefully at home after a three-year fight with progressive supranuclear palsy, complicated by chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Born and raised in Powell River, Linda excelled at piano and school in the 1950s. She began her lifelong interest in reading, writing and editing with projects including her school annual and a series of pioneer stories in the Powell River News. In the 1960s, after a degree in education at University of British Columbia, Linda taught at elementary-level schools in Prince George and Ottawa. Married in 1964 to Dave Florence, Linda began travelling life with the Royal Canadian Air Force. After bearing children in 1969 and 1971, Linda returned to writing in 1974, first as the prison-beat reporter for the Kingston Whig-Standard in Kingston, ON, and later as assistant editor of the Der Kanadier in Lahr, Germany. On return to Ottawa in 1980, she became editor for 13 years of The Leader, Scouts Canada magazine, and edited its newspaper at several scout jamborees. Returning to Powell River in 1993, Linda did several writing projects for School District 47 and served on the Powell River Public Library Board from 1994 to 2002. She then enjoyed retirement with hobbies including gardening, reading, bird watching, clarinet performance and travelling; including semi annual visits to family in Ontario and five-month stints for many winters to the southern United States. Predeceased by her parents Earl and Babe Courte, Linda is survived in Powell River by her husband Dave, brother Terry Courte (Alice) and half-sister Mavis Beatty (Lin); and in Ontario by her son Scott (Louise), daughter Lisa (Adam) and three grandchildren Jared, Erica and Raphael. The family would like to thank Dr. duToit and his staff and all the home support workers at Vancouver Coastal Health and PR Home Care Services for their skill and kindness to Linda during her last few months. Memorial gifts may be sent to the Powell River Public Library new library fund. No service by request. A celebration of life will be held July 2, 2016.

