



## **REMEMBERING**

# **Pearl Alina Warris**

February 22, 1934 - December 28, 2020



Pearl Alina Aho was born on February 22, 1934 at the Old Powell River Hospital. She was the eldest daughter of Ansel and Pearl Aho. Alina had a rich and interesting family history. Alina's father brought in supplies and trapped with the Khlahoose and the founding families of the Sunshine Coast. He was of Finnish Laplander descent and learned to speak Salish before English. Alina's maternal relatives were early colonial settlers in Massachusetts. Her family also had history in New York and Wisconsin before travelling to British Columbia in the 1880s from the Nehalem Valley. Her mother Pearl was born and raised on Savary Island, and it remains a special place for the family to this day.

Alina's early years were spent at Khartoum Lake, and she had many fond stories of her Japanese friends from that time. She also enjoyed spending long afternoons in the garden with her grandmother in Lang Bay. Later in her childhood the family relocated to Lund where she made a dear friend June Franzin.

Syd Warris met Alina Aho at Burg & Johnson where she worked as a bookkeeper. She used this skill for many years and kept wonderful records for the family. Alina used to say that she fell in love with Syd because he was so kind to his siblings. Alina said that Syd said the exact same thing about her. Syd sold his boat, quit fishing and logging, and went to work in the Powell River Pulp Mill for 38 years. Syd and Alina got married in 1953 and they were blessed with four children. Eric was born in 1954. Gregory was born in 1957 and sadly passed away as an infant. Lawrence was born in 1958 and Denise followed in 1960.

In 1960 the family moved to Allen Avenue behind Cranberry Lake. Alina's cousins lived there - The Schluters, the Allens, and the Phillips. Everyone shared the same religious beliefs, and many happy times were spent together. Syd and Alina lived on Allen Avenue for 30 plus years raising their family.

In the 1990s Alina and Syd moved to Old Westview Road. Alina was thrilled with her grandchildren Danielle, Stefan, Ryan, and Torger. They were her heart. In time

her love extended to great grandchildren as well.

Syd was a wonderful provider and there was always an abundance of everything Alina needed.

Alina was beautiful, smart, generous, hospitable and the most honest person. She loved a good laugh and had a great sense of humour. She was vibrant and fascinating. She loved picnics at the beach; she once spent the entire day at the beach with a sprained ankle because she didn't want to interrupt the fun. Syd says that Alina was happiest at the beach, and he treasures the memories of their family camping trips on the ocean. Alina's garden was full of beautiful flowers. Clematises, roses, freesias, amaryllises and wall flowers grew vigorously in her care. She played a spirited and competitive game of cards! She was always stylish and loved her bright colors and big sparkly jewelry. She loved music and art - especially Pavarotti and Van Gogh. She loved babies and little children and all sorts of birds and animals. She loved her creator and her family with powerful intensity and ferocity.

Alina was predeceased by her sisters Isobel and Sylvia and her son Gregory. Alina is survived by Syd, her loving husband of 67 plus years. She is also survived by her sisters Gloriette and Evelyn and her brother Ansel, along with their spouses. She is also survived by her sister in law and longtime friend Norma Warris. The family is very grateful for the care that Alina received later in life at Willingdon Creek, and would especially like to thank Christie and Pam. Pam is her childhood friend June Franzin's daughter.

Faith was very important to Alina, and she was an avid student of the Bible. She enjoyed learning and was very detailed in her research. Alina believed in God and the resurrection hope found in the Bible.

We miss her so very much.

