REMEMBERING

Emma Jeffers

December 11, 1928 - February 16, 2020

EMMA M. JEFFERS

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Emma carried a beautiful, loving spirit which she generously shared with all those she knew and met.

She was born in Baldwinton Saskatchewan, the youngest of five girls, to John and Maria Bisaro.

In later years the farming family moved to a small orchard in Salmon Arm. By 17 years of age Emma ventured out on her own working in Vancouver, and Calgary in the service and retail sector. She eventually married and settled in Kamloops area with former spouse Bill Jeffers, to raise their 5 children, Doug, Mary, Paul, Karen and Steve. They lived in the rural community of Dallas on the Thompson River, later moving to Valleyview near town to run a hotel business in Kamloops. Around 1969, when Emma and Bill went their separate ways, she moved on to single Mom life with courage and grace. She and Bill remained friends, keeping a tradition of sending the same birthday card back and forth with well wishes, until Bill's passing in 2008.

Emma's family often reminisces about her kind, non- judgmental, wise and supportive ways; demonstrated often when she welcomed friends and extended family into our home. All enjoyed respite when needed, loving support and endless offerings of her famous spaghetti! Her kids all agree she taught us the true meaning of love, kindness, and community. Many others referred to her as Mom or Momma.

As her children gradually left the nest she explored life on her own. She enjoyed travelling, and was successful in her entrepreneurial ventures. After working and living several places in B.C. and Alberta, Emma settled in Kelowna B.C. where she

spent her retirement years enjoying old and new friends. For many of those years Emma faced the physical challenges of crippling disease with such admirable determination. She was known in her community as the ‘women with the walker and the smile’. Emma along with her walker, which she inventively modified to suit her specific needs, walked miles every day. Visitors found themselves going the distance with her, stopping only for friendly greetings along the way. Her strength and independence was an inspiration to so many!

Emma spent her last years in Mission B.C. close to her family. The family wishes to thank the staff at The Cedars assisted living, Christine Morrison Hospice, Dr. Paul Theron and Dr.Rahul Manocha and all her friends at St.Andrews co-op for the loving and respectful care and support in her last few years and months.

In her last days she whispered, everyone has been so good to me. Emma, Momma, Gramma, GG… you have been so good to all of us. Rest in peace, your kindness and warm smile is forever in our hearts.