

# *In Loving Memory Of*



**Merrilyn Edna Gudmundson**

February 23, 1946 - January 28 2022



## **Merrilyn Edna Gudmundson (nee McLarty)**

February 23, 1946 – January 28, 2022

On Friday, January 28, 2022, Merrilyn Gudmundson passed away peacefully at home. She will be lovingly remembered by her sons, Kerry, and Kent (Teri), granddaughter Svanna, sister Jeanie, brother Lorne (Lise), in-laws and many nieces and nephews.

Merrilyn is predeceased by her husband, J. Marvin Gudmundson and both parents, Stuart, and Hazel McLarty

Merrilyn was raised on the family farm near Cartwright, Manitoba where she had the opportunity to be active in the 4-H Beef and Sewing clubs. Following high school, Merrilyn began a career as a nurse. While she did enjoy nursing, her focus changed in 1972 with the birth of her first son, Kerry. Wanting to dedicate as much time as possible to her family, she chose to be a homemaker and care for her young son.

In 1974, Merrilyn and Marvin welcomed Kent into the world, and she continued to be a proud stay-at-home mother, caring for her two children.

Being from a hard-working family, however, Merrilyn was not one to sit still. So, while caring for her children, she began creating unique stuffed animals and her venture into the world of craft sales began. Known for her beautiful stuffed mice, she was also the creator of the cute Cuddly Ugly stuffed animal.

After years of raising children and working craft sales, she began to look for something different. With her kids growing up and needing her home less and less, she began a new career at Sears Canada, selling sewing machines and vacuum cleaners. She was proud of her job and worked hard to become one of the best salespeople in the store, winning many sales achievement awards.

An avid gardener, Merrilyn treated her neighbours to a display of overflowing colourful planter displays each summer. Merrilyn loved to spend hours looking at her plants and caring for them. They brought her such joy and were always beautiful.

She was a creative cook and was known for her decoratively displayed fruit and vegetable platters, which she generously shared. Always willing to try something new, she was continuously searching for a new recipe to try.

Merrilyn loved friends and family. She enjoyed going to the Charleswood Community Church every Sunday, and when she was unable to attend, she enjoyed the live streams of the service. When the “church ladies” would come over to her home to sing for her, she was always ecstatic and would speak of how much she enjoyed the songs for days and days after.

She was keen on keeping track of what was going on with the lives of everyone in her family. She loved to hear about what all her nieces and nephews and their kids were up to and retelling the delightful stories to anyone who would listen. She loved being with family and promoted as many family gatherings as she could.

Kent and Teri would like to extend a huge thank you and appreciation to Kent's brother and Merrilyn's eldest son, Kerry. Without you, she would not have had the quality of life she had. You cared for her, doing cleaning, shopping, and cooking, and ensured that she would never be alone. Your big heart truly made her last few years easier, and we know she was profoundly grateful for you. She would often tell people how much you did and how much you cared for her. She was truly proud of you and loved you very, very much.

The family would also like to thank Debbie, who would often stop in for a chat and to water flowers, Mary-Lou who would take mom on many appointments, her “church family” who were often a source of joy and inspiration for her and all her family and friends who loved this amazing woman.

In lieu of flowers, consideration of a donation to Faith Bible Camp would be appreciated.

# Order of Service

## **Poetry Reading**

Kent Gudmundson (Son)

## **Welcome**

Pastor Gavin

## **Prayer**

Pastor Gavin

## **Scripture**

Psalm 62:1&2

## **Special Music**

Jen Delavau, Megan Carter

## **Homily**

Pastor Gavin

## **Congregational Singing**

## **Obituary**

Darran McLarty (Nephew)

## **Eulogy**

Jeanie Harrison (Sister)

## **Special Music**

B-J McAuley, Bobbi Campbell, Buffy Debreuil (Nieces)

## **Communal Prayer**

Pastor Gavin

## **Dismissal**

***Thank you for coming.***

*We regret that due to current health orders we are unable to invite everyone to join the family for coffee following the service.*



## *Once Again, The Angels Shall Sing*

*Once again, the angels shall sing  
For another woman has received her wings*

*Nineteen-forty-six was the year  
That Grandma and Grandpa sang songs of cheer  
For God delivered a new soul to a beautiful babe  
February 23<sup>rd</sup> will always be a special day*

*Growing up on the farm, miles away  
Playing with your best friend, Auntie May  
Watching over siblings, Lorne, and Jeanie  
With a smile that was always beaming*

*In sixty-seven you married a man  
With Marvin J. Gudmundson, a new chapter began  
A giver of life is what you will always be  
A giver of life to Kerry and me*

*I never was the perfect child  
Sometimes calm, sometimes wild  
Often confused, with no direction  
You guided me, without my recollection*

*Everything you did, was to better me  
What was foggy then I can now clearly see  
You wanted me to grow, to better myself  
You pushed hard, and gave of yourself*

*And when I did fail, which was all to frequent  
You would bail out and help this delinquent  
When I was in distress, you brought me home  
Even through great distance, I was not alone*

*Because of that I was able to meet the love of my life  
The woman who would become my wife  
The daughter you wanted, the daughter you got  
We all know that you loved her a lot*

*When Teri and I were blessed with child  
You were so happy... you loved to smile  
Spoiled and loved, that is what she would be  
The perfect granddaughter is what you always did see*

*As things got hard, you tried not to let it get you down  
You always wanted your family around  
And as you could do less and less  
You still felt truly blessed*

*I was the baby, the mamma's boy  
I got to see a lot of laughter and joy  
But the real work was left to my big brother  
Who loved you so much, my dear mother*

*From shopping to cleaning to just stopping in to say hi  
He was always there for you, and I will not lie  
I am thankful he was, as you were never alone  
He made sure your place was not a cage, but a home*

*From your church family to your friends  
From the Gudmundson's to McLarty's, love never ends  
I am thankful, so thankful for everyone  
Who loved this great woman, who loved my mom*

*It will be hard, this next chapter in life  
Who to call when I am in strife?  
I have dialed your number a few times now  
So I could vent, about life, about pain, about how*

*How you could be taken from us so soon  
How you will not see your spring flowers bloom  
I know you will watch down and you will still guide me  
But it won't be the same, and it never will be*

*God reached out, and you took his hand  
So that he could lead you to the promised land  
Say hi to dad and to everyone above  
And know that you were, are and always will be  
Loved*

*Once again, the heavens shall sing  
This amazing woman, angel has gotten her wings*

