



**Darlene Anne Hartley-Thomas With Second Grandson
May 24, 1953 - July 16, 2022**

Darlene Anne Hartley-Thomas (nee Hartley) passed away at the Invermere Hospital during the afternoon of July 16, 2022 at the age of 69 after battling a prolonged respiratory condition.

Darlene was born in Bengough, SK to Harry and June Hartley (Greenawalt) who farmed in the Ogema area. She first attended the country school in nearby Dahinda and later graduated from high school in Ogema. After graduation she worked as a telephone operator, dental assistant and secretary. Her desire to see different places took her to work in Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton, Victoria, Hay River, Inuvik as well as vacations in the UK and Mexico.

In 1980 she began work in Calgary where she first met her future partner, Vic Thomas and a permanent relationship flourished in 1984. Darlene's two sons, Mark and Ryan, were born in Calgary. Vic, Darlene and boys spent most weekends each year and summer vacation at the family cottage near Invermere. Wishing to live in a smaller community, Darlene and boys moved to the family cottage in 2002;- Vic continuing work in Calgary until his retirement in 2005. Together, they traveled to New Zealand, Chile, Argentina, Central Europe, Hawaii and numerous cities in the continental USA.

Darlene loved sports, especially lady's fastball but also badminton, squash, water skiing, sailing, downhill skiing, and golf. After moving to Invermere, she became active in the Lake Windermere District Rod & Gun Club, acting as club secretary and membership coordinator for several years and became an accomplished archer and clay target shooter until health conditions curtailed these activities. Darlene loved flowers and her flower garden kept her busy during the summer. She was a wonderful partner and mother and cared greatly about her family.

She was pre-deceased by her parents and brother-in-law, Allan Thomas.

Darlene is survived by her partner of 38 years, Vic Thomas; son Mark Thomas (Shannon Thomas) and grandsons Dominic, Carson and Bryce of Sparwood; son Ryan Thomas (Alex Weller) of Canberra, Australia; step son Scott of Calgary; step son Mike Thomas (Kerri-Anne Thomas) of Invermere; step son Kevin Thomas (Cindy Thomas) of Evansburg, AB; brother Richard Hartley (Joy Hartley) of Livelong, SK; sister Jody Schmidt (Ken Schmidt) of Ogema, SK; sister Susan Guraluick (Todd Hesjedal) of Bengough. Extended family also includes Vera Thomas of Edmonton, Norm and Shirley Smith as well as Stan and Ruth Thomas, both of Fort Saskatchewan, AB. Special friends include Rosemary Cliche and Mildred Hartley of Calgary and Gerri Gemmell of New Zealand and of course her loving dog, Lola.

At her request, no service will be held.