

MAURO, Vera Margaret "VEE"
1926 – 2021



We share the loss of our much-loved mother, Vera Margaret Mauro, who passed away peacefully at her home on December 20, 2021, in Delta, at the young age of 95.

Vera was predeceased by her two husbands Ivan Jones and Victor Mauro and her three sisters, Inez, Lila and Louise.

Vera was born in Cranbrook, BC. Her father was Benjamin Crow, born in Lexington, Oregon, and who would later settle in Pitt Meadows. Her dear mother, Justina ("Tina") Kneebone, was born in Deadwood, South Dakota. Sadly, "Tina" would pass away when Vera was only 2 years old.

As a result of not having a mother in the family home, the 4 daughters were removed from Daddy's farm by The Children's Aid Society and placed into foster care in Vancouver.

Vera enjoyed her first job assisting customers at the "Big" downtown Woodward's department store.

Vera would later attend VVI's "Beauty School". Vera was gifted artistically and she enjoyed helping women look their best. She would work at "Arnold's Hair Salon" on West Broadway for many years, all the while being a single Mother. She often said her favourite job was raising her "two girls".

Vera would remain friends with Arnold after he moved to Australia with his wife.

Upon meeting Vera, people would invariably remark how beautiful she was.

Upon hearing the compliments, Vera was humble and always gracious.

After a lot of challenging "hazards on the front 9 of life", the "back 9 of life" would prove much smoother.

At age 40, Vera would again attend VVI to upgrade her skills. Upon graduating from the Business Ed. Program at VVI, she was asked to apply for the new position teaching typing in the new "Manpower Program". Jean, Jackie and "Winnie" were a strong teaching team and became life long friends.

VEE could soon be seen "zipping" to work in her "new-to-her" bright yellow OPEL sports car.

With her life experience, VEE appreciated the Program's aim to help women attain business skills and obtain jobs. She felt fortunate to have a rewarding teaching career at VCC.

Her artistic gift of painting was only pursued after retirement, as was learning to play Bridge. Both she and Sheila benefitted from her husband Vic's expertise as a Bridge player.

"VIC and VEE" as they were affectionately known, had a happy marriage. "It's never too late to live happily ever after". They each enjoyed a lengthy retirement. Vic loved his "golf", but together they loved their road trips. In 1990, they embarked on a road trip crisscrossing the USA and Canada. VEE was in search of her mother Kneebone's relatives. VEE kept in touch with dear Eileen Kneebone, of Chatham, ONT., "40th cousin removed", ever since!

VEE valued maintaining longtime friendships. VEE will be dearly missed by her daughters "CJ", Darlene (Michael), granddaughter Pamela, step-daughter Dianne Jefferson ("Wilfre"), and step-son Ken Mauro. Extended family, good friends Pauline, Anton, Susan and other VCC retirees.

VEE organized an annual Christmas dinner for 32 years so she and her VCC colleagues could visit over a "traditional" turkey dinner in the popular VCC dining room. VEE enjoyed seeing the "drafting guys" who would come down

from the Sunshine Coast to visit. VEE's joy came in seeing other people enjoying themselves.

After the pandemic began, VEE agreed to adopt another rescue dog. Like Vic's beloved dog, Willie, HOLLY brought sunshine and smiles every day and eased the isolation of COVID. Should you wish to remember VEE, please consider making a donation to your favourite animal rescue.

And, in remembrance of VEE, there will be a memorial plaque installed at the picnic table near Victor's Memorial Bench. Bring a picnic and your "bestfriend" for a walk in scenic Rotary Park at the Delta Civic Centre.

No service by request, but please raise a glass and toast to "VIC and VEE", together again.

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