

Greta Baetz Obituary

February 7, 1937 to October 9 2022



It is with great sadness that the family of Greta Baetz inform you that Greta passed away on October 9, 2022 at the age of 85. She was surrounded by family in her final days in Yellowknife and is now resting in peace.

From her humble beginnings on the Peel and Hudson Bay Channels in the Mackenzie Delta to her days in Aklavik, Inuvik, Edzo and Yellowknife, Greta was best known for her resolve to put others first. She spent many years serving the public in many ways. One such contribution included her participation in the establishment of the NWT's Native Woman's Association in the late 1970's with several other influential Native women of the time. It is here where she put her mark on NWT history by establishing and operating a native arts and crafts program in the NWT intended to revitalize a quickly declining industry. Her work to gain equitable returns on native arts and crafts for the women (and men) producing beaded slippers to moose hair tuftings to fur garments, and so much more, was instrumental keeping and attracting new artists and crafters to the industry ensuring its survival.

She later spent nearly 15 years working for the GNWT at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre where she is still remembered as a compassionate, caring and understanding Corrections Officer by many who crossed paths with her while there. Always putting others before her, and treating people like people, no matter what their predicament might have been, was who she was.

She enjoyed fishing on the big lake and Yellowknife river, and you could count on finding her in any one of her favourite berry patches every year picking berries to share with family and friends.

Greta is survived by her children Carol-Lynn, Penny (Stephane), Pam (Keith), Conrad (Marjorie) and Julie. She was loved by nine grand children – Lianne, Travis, Corey, Allision, Shannon, Jessee, Keely, Sydney and Billi; and Seven great grand children – Riley, Scarlett, Aubree, Avery, Finley, Aisling, and Alexander. She is predeceased by sisters Faith and Hertha, brother Peter, and grand daughter Melissa.

A celebration of life honouring Greta was held on October 15, 2022.