

Deborah Diane Gilmour (nee Bonnar)



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Deborah (Debbie), beloved wife, mother, sister, aunt, grandmother and true friend. Debbie passed away on August 19th, after a long battle with colon cancer.

Debbie was born October 13, 1949 in Ottawa, Ontario, the third of six children of Stuart and Jeanie (nee Langille) Bonnar. She graduated from Laurentian High School (class of '67) and then began work as a paralegal. In 1973, Debbie moved to Yellowknife, Northwest Territories to be near her sister, and begin a new adventure. During her time in the North, Debbie had a successful career with the Government of the Northwest Territories working in many capacities in the Departments of Justice, Personnel, Social Services and Public Works. While in Yellowknife, Debbie welcomed her son, Michael Parkins.

On August 7, 1981, Debbie married Jeff Gilmour. The family spent as much time as they could at their cabin on Prelude Lake, which they shared with her sister and brother-in-law (Linda & Jim France), where they enjoyed swimming, sunning, berry picking, boating and snowmobiling. In 1989, the family took a one-year

sabbatical from the north and headed to Kingston, Ontario, when Jeff was selected to participate in the National Defence College. It is during this time, Debbie and Jeff developed their love of travel.

In 1998 Debbie and Jeff relocated to Calgary. Debbie became a very active member in Calgary's Newcomers' Club as well as several bridge and book clubs. She was also a Member of the Order of St. John. She picked up golfing after retirement, played with several ladies' teams and became known for an effective short-game. Debbie was a devoted gardener, who enjoyed tending to her many flowerbeds and garden and usually had her binoculars close at hand for bird and animal watching. She loved a glass of wine while watching her Los Angeles Dodgers play. Debbie loved nothing more than spending time with her family – and in particular her grandchildren. She actively supported their interests and involvement with sports and other events.

Together, Debbie and Jeff travelled the world. Over many trips Jeff and Debbie visited countries all over Europe, Scandinavia, the Middle and Far East, South America and Oceania. In the last several years, Jeff and Debbie enjoyed several trips with friends and family including John Gilmour and Louise (spending wonderful times together in Kauai, Palm Springs and many cruises), David Bonnar and his daughter Nicole (in Palm Springs and Hawaii) and Joel and Sheila Fournier (through Europe).

Debbie was known to a great many for her generous nature, kindness and fierce loyalty. Debbie is lovingly remembered by her husband Jeff Gilmour, son Michael Parkins (Vicky), step-son David Gilmour (Sheri Spence), step-daughter Gillian Gilmour (Michael Cressey), her siblings Linda France (Jim), Jim Bonnar (Francine), Doug Bonnar (Cindy), Robert Bonnar (Cecile) and David Bonnar, her siblings-in-law John Gilmour (Louise Panneton), Paula Billings (John) and Angela Gorman (Richard Thomas) and her grandchildren, Elliot and Annika Parkins; John, Sarah and Nicholas Gilmour, Hayden and Ella-Claire Spence and Myah Cressey, and, her extended family, and her many dear friends.

The family would like to express their appreciation to the physicians and staff of the Foothills Medical Centre, and the Tom Baker Cancer Centre, and in particular Drs. Scot Dowden, Xiaolan Feng, Gregg Nelson and Tony Maclean. Debbie's final days were palliated by the wonderful staff of the Rosedale Hospice. A service to honour Debbie will be held on September 1st at 10 AM at Eden Brook Funeral Home in Calgary. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hospice Calgary; <https://www.hospicecalgary.ca/donate/>