



Margaret Baile

With great sadness, we announce the passing of Margaret Baile at the age of 91 on March 12, 2021, in Salmon Arm BC.

Marg came north with her first husband, BGen. Blake Baile in 1980 when he assumed command of Northern Region Headquarters. Yellowknife was to be their last posting after a military career, which included postings in Petawawa, London, and Trenton Ontario, Victoria (Royal Roads) British Columbia, St. Hubert Quebec, Soest, Seckenheim and Heidelberg Germany, and Ismailia Egypt.

Marg received her Bachelor Degree in Social Work at the University of British Columbia, and specialized in foster care and adoption until she "retired" in 1983. However, Marg was not one to slow down. That year Marg started her second career as an art dealer. She started with a single Bern Will Brown print, one easel, and a chair. She would sit in the lobby

of the Explorer Hotel and sell copies of that one print. By the time Marg retired for the second time in 1999, Arctic Art Gallery was the premiere Art Gallery in the North. Marg had purchased the old Yellowknife Library building on Franklin Ave and created not only an art gallery business, but also a must-see destination for visitors to Yellowknife. Marg's Art Auctions and Art Dinners were always sold-out events. She was appointed to the Board of Governors of the National Art Gallery of Canada. The sale of the Art Gallery in 1999 allowed Marg to fulfill a childhood dream of having a farm reminiscent of her parents' dairy farm in Chiliwack BC. This led to her acquiring a 160-acre farm in Celista, British Columbia.

During Marg's later time in Yellowknife, she met and eventually married northern magazine publisher, then politician, Jake Ootes. When Marg and Jake retired again in 2005, they moved to Celista and settled into the farm life. Of course that lasted only a short time before they both got the business bug again and started the award-winning Celista Estate Winery. With Jake's love and caring, Marg was able to fulfill her dream of living on the farm until the very end.

Marg was always overjoyed to have visits from her children and grandchildren. In 2017 she was ecstatic to become a great grandmother. Besides her loving husband, Jake, Marg is survived by daughter, Dr. Marcia Baile of Gabriola Island, BC; son, Geoff Baile (Connie) of Vancouver and his children Erin and Alex; Colin Baile (Liz) of Yellowknife, and their son Harrison, daughter Tanis and great-grandson, Jordy; and step-son Luke Ootes of Victoria. She was predeceased by her parents, Rose and Les Harrison, and her sister Marie Harrison.

A Tribute Wall is available, should you wish to leave your thoughts or memories of Marg at:
www.bowersfuneralservice.com/obituary/Margaret-Baile