

Linda Anne de Weerdt

Linda Anne de Weerdt (neé Hadwen) died on Wednesday, September 19 at Braddan Private Hospital in Vancouver, B.C. She joins her husband Mark, beloved mother Aulden Hadwen and

father Isaac Seymore Andre and brother John Gaylard. She is survived and remembered by her 4 sons, 11 grandchildren and her brother: son Simon and his children Anthony, Clair, Benjamin and Angela, son Murray and his children Ina and Isaac, son David and his daughter Kyela, son Charles and his children Julia, Marc, Alain and Chloe, and by her brother Theodore.

Anne lived a passionate life marked by kindness and generosity to others, by life-long commitment to and support of her mother, children, husband and beyond these, to her community. She was born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan on December 4, 1924 and grew up in Toronto. She greatly admired her father Isaac Seymore Andre Hadwen, the pioneering Canadian veterinary scientist, and her mother Alden (neé Godwin), a true lady of great gentility. Linda Anne was from her earliest days fiercely independent, not one to accede to any suggestion that a girl could not do something. She excelled at climbing trees. In the 1930s with her parents she traveled Ontario to Vancouver Island in a Model-T, before the TransCanada Highway was built.

She loved the colour red, and loved to dance The Son's of the Pioneers' "Cool Clear Water" was one of her favourite songs. She served in the WREN's during WWII, and after the war helped restore Berlin. She studied painting in London and Paris. She had graduated from St. Clement's School in Toronto, then completed a degree in Occupational and Physical Therapy. In 1955 she met Mark de Weerdt. They married in 1956, and raised 4 sons in Yellowknife. Northwest Territories and then later in Vancouver, British Columbia, In Yellowknife, Anne was among those who helped found the Abe Miller School for people with developmental disabilities. She worked as an Occupational Therapist, and later, served as Executive Director of the Canadian Red Cross in the Northwest Territories. At 65, she returned to university for her Master's degree in Educational Psychology.

Anne was the sort of person who would meet you one day, and take you cranberry picking the next. She loved to sing. She could whistle 12 different birdsongs. She would ride her bicycle in a dress, Judge's wife or no. She made the best ever English Plum Pudding. She did everything she could for her children, though she never thought she had done enough. It was, Mom; it was so much more than enough. Her strong legacy will endure in the warmth, creativity, courage and kindness passed through her to her children, grandchildren and theirs. She dared, and lived. A service to celebrate the life of Anne was held Friday, October 5, 2007 at 1:00 pm Church of St. John the Evangelist, 154 Somerset Street W., Ottawa, Ontario.