



Katie Laktin 1948 - 2014

Katie Laktin was born to Tim and Polly Ribalkin on December 25, 1948, in Nelson BC. She was a Christmas baby! She was the third oldest of five girls.

The family lived in Perry Siding, and Katie started school at the old Perry's school. She was a very bright student and enjoyed school very much. Some of the highlights of life on a farm in the Slocan Valley included picking morel mushrooms in the old orchard, which is now the Valley Golf Course, doing her homework in the cemetery, and sliding down the cemetery hill in the winter.

At the age of seven, Katie, along with other children, was taken to New Denver, where she remained for approximately a year and a half. After release from New Denver, the family left for the coast. They wound up living in Agassiz, where Katie took the bulk of her schooling. She was in grade 11 when the family moved to Vancouver. There Katie worked in a clothing factory for a short time, followed by work at a factory building ship to shore radios. She enjoyed that a lot, plus the fact that she finally had some of her own spending money. She also continued her education by correspondence, and almost completed her grade 12.

The family decided to head back to the Kootenays, and Grand Forks was the location. Katie went to

work at the Sunshine Valley Coop.

Sister Nina moved to Nelson, and found work at the KC restaurant. Katie decided to go for a visit, and during a night out with the girls, she met the love of her life, Jim Laktin. It turned into a long distance relationship, and a little over a year later they were married in a traditional Doukhobor ceremony at the Laktin family farm in Slocan Park, on June 3, 1972.

Jim was living in Cranbrook at the time, so that is where their married life started.

Katie went to work for BC Tel as a telephone operator in Cranbrook. Two years later their first son Jamie was born in Cranbrook. Jim had already started work in Nelson by this time, so shortly after Jamie was born, the new family was packed up and moved to Shoreacres. Theo and Michael came after that, and it soon became apparent that the 12x68 mobile home was bursting at the seams. They built a house in the Voykin subdivision where they remained for the next 25 plus years. Jim and Katie decided right from the start that she would be a stay at home mom. She was in her glory. When Jamie and Theo started high school, Katie decided she needed more kids in the house, so she opened a day care and operated that for nine years. She loved kids, and treated them with the same love and caring that

she gave to her own boys. The bond ran deep, and many are still in touch to this day. After she closed her own day care, she went to work for the Brent Kennedy Day Care Centre.

Her life was her kids, and they all became elite athletes. All holidays and trips became Volleyball tournaments, baseball games tournaments etc. etc. Many provincial tournaments and many trips throughout BC, Alberta the Pacific Northwest and California.

The house became a safe house for all the kids, teams and friends, and no one left hungry. Katie was a long time member of the Doukhobor Cultural Association.

There were trips all over North America, the Caribbean and Europe. The best one was a family trip to Portugal for three weeks. At this time, all of the boys were gone and the house was too empty, so along came her new daughter Lily, our golden lab. That became the total focus. Katie also loved being on the water. Many weekends over many years were spent on her beloved houseboat, with kids, friends and of course Lily.

In 2001 Katie and Jim decided it was time for a change, sold their house and moved to the Okanagan. That only lasted six months, followed by a move to Squamish. After eight years, the pull was strong to come back to the Kootenays. This was also the time her first granddaughter Niya, came along. She was ecstatic.

Katie decided it was time to help Jamie in his fruit stands, and started to cook Russian Food, including pyrahi, varenniki and her now famous "Cranky Mom Borshch."

On August 29, 2011 Katie was blessed with three more granddaughters at once. Polly, Marley and Thea were born. Katie was so overjoyed, it was beyond description. Life took on a whole new meaning. She could not have been more proud of her four grandkids.

In October of 2013, Katie was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. She had successful surgery in Vancouver, and at the end of February, 2014, was given a clean bill of health. Unfortunately, in mid April, a very rare and aggressive cancer came back so quickly, that nothing could be done to stop it. On May 10, 2014 at 8:50 PM., Katie passed into the hands of the Lord, with her loving family at her side at the Trail Regional Hospital.

She leaves to mourn, her husband of 42 years Jim, son Jamie and granddaughter Niya, son Theo, his wife Kim and their triplets Polly, Marley and Thea, and son Michael, father Tim Ribalkin, sisters Naida [Peter] Nazaroff, Winnie Plotnikoff and Marge [Harry] Bojey.

She was predeceased by sister Nina Hoodikoff, mom Polly, brother-in-law, Harry Plotnikoff and her very dear Lily. May they all rest in peace in God's heavenly kingdom.



In Memoriam
Vechnaya Pamyat

Preserving the memory of our deceased family members and friends