Margaret Koftinoff was born on November 25, 1927, in Buchanan, Saskatchewan, to Mike and Tania Swetlishnoff. When she was eight years old they moved to British Columbia to a farm in the Nursery area. She had an older brother John, and a younger sister Vera, as well as a step sister, Mabel.

Margaret and Paul Koftinoff were married on December 3, 1944. They built their first home in the Chistyakovoye area in Grand Forks. They lived there for 30 years and raised their four children on the farm. As the children grew and left home they sold the farm to move to town. After her husband died, and her own health declined, Margaret moved to Castlegar where she lived at Castlewood and then Talarico Place.

Mother (Margaret) was a very talented woman. She loved to garden, had the most amazing garden and flowers; she cooked and baked and always had a fridge full of goodies and organic delicious food. She supplied all the kids, and grandkids with the most amazing meals. They hosted every Christmas and every holiday for the whole family. She welcomed everyone to her home and they never left hungry. She sewed, she knitted, she quilted, she crocheted, and was an amazing weaver. As well, she had time to volunteer at the Hospital Auxiliary, the USCC Cooking Groups, and was an active member of the Weavers Guild.

The most important thing in Margaret's life was her family. She gave them her unconditional love and supported them to become the people they have become. The grandchildren spent as much time with them as they did at home. She was the best baba for the kids as they could always depend on her love. After the grandkids had kids she became “Little Baba”, and they loved her as much as she loved them. She never got tired of hearing the stories of what the little kids were doing. She'd laugh and be so thankful that she was part of their lives.

To know Margaret is to realize what a caring, giving, generous person she was. She always thought of others before herself. She was a wonderful friend, mother, and the heart of her family.

Margaret died peacefully on March 21, 2014. She was surrounded by her family. She will be missed by her children: Dianna, Betsy, Bernie/Larry and Sasha; Betsy's children: Arla, Treena (her family Chris and children Daisy and Misha), and Devon (with his family of Rachelle and daughter Sofie); Larry and Bernie's children: Erik (and his family of Jamie, and children Isaac, Olivia and Ari), Maya Koftinoff and Zakary Koftinoff; and Sasha's children: Tasha and Quinn.

She is also survived by her sister Vera Chernenko and sisters-in-law Lorraine (Jerry) Seminoff and Helen Koftinoff.

She will be missed by all of us.

Memorial donations can be made to Talarico Place in Castlegar or ISKRA Publications.