



Pauline Makortoff 1923 - 2014

Pauline was born on March 8, 1923, in the Doukhobor community of Ootischenia, near Castlegar, BC, one of seven children in the family of Polly and Fred Hadikin. In 1945 she married John A. Makortoff. The couple resided in Blewett near Nelson, BC, and after the birth of their only child, daughter Elaine, in 1947, they moved to the Almond Gardens area on the outskirts of Grand Forks, BC. There they shared a small farm with John's family until they built their own house on an adjoining plot of land, where they lived for the rest of their married life.

Like many Doukhobor women of her generation whose husbands were away working elsewhere, Pauline faced the daily challenges of farm life and the long hours of physical labour with quiet strength and determination. After John's passing in 1982, she lived on the farm on her own before moving to a house in town in 1997.

Pauline had many hobbies and interests. She was an able gardener, a talented seamstress and a skillful baker, taking a special interest in bread making. Her other interests included knitting fine doilies and writing poetry in English, a rare achievement for someone with only a grade five education. Her poems were read at Doukhobor events and were published in the Grand Forks Gazette when it had a poetry corner, and most

frequently in the Doukhobor magazine, ISKRA. Many of her poems were on anti-war themes and her pacifism inspired her to participate in nine peace walks in Vancouver, BC. In 2005, she was honoured to have her poem, "Lev Nikolaevitch Tolstoy", featured in the book, "Tolstoy and the Doukhobors", written by internationally recognized Tolstoy scholar, Dr. Andrew Donskov.

Pauline was devoted to the Doukhobor faith and was a dedicated life-long member of the Union of Spiritual Communities of Christ. In 1989 she fulfilled a long-held dream of traveling to Russia on a tour of Doukhobor villages and historic Doukhobor sites.

In the spring of 2013, with her health in decline, she moved into Ivy House, the comprehensive care wing of the Silver Kettle Village seniors' complex in Grand Forks. After a short illness, she passed away peacefully in the early hours of February 8, 2014, exactly a month short of her 91st birthday.

Pauline was predeceased by her parents, her husband, most of her in-laws, and all of her siblings - Dmitri (in infancy), Alice (Horkoff), Mike, Fred, Lucy (Pictin), and most recently, her twin sister Flora (Markin). She is survived by her daughter Elaine Makortoff in Vancouver, BC, her

sisters-in-law, Mary and Nell Makortoff, and an extended family of cousins, nieces and nephews, as well as many friends and neighbours.

Pauline was a kind and generous person with a creative mind and a strong and positive spirit, who will be missed greatly by all who knew and loved her. May God accept her into His Heavenly Kingdom and may she rest in peace.

A traditional Doukhobor funeral was held on February 18, 2014 at the USCC Community Centre in Grand Forks, BC. Pauline, who dearly loved Doukhobor singing, would have been gratified to know that those in attendance beautifully sang her to her rest.

The funeral arrangements were in care of the Grand Forks Funeral Home, with interment at the Sion Cemetery in Grand Forks. A luncheon in Pauline's honour followed at the USCC Community Centre.

The family of the late Pauline F. Makortoff would

like to thank the following: the staff of Ivy House for taking care of Pauline over the past year; Mary McDougall for helping Pauline whenever she needed something; Debbie Mark and hospice volunteer Kristina Nysten for sitting with Pauline during her last days; everyone who called, gave or sent cards and flowers, came to the house to offer their condolences or brought food; Larry Jakubowski for his help the week before the funeral; the psalmists and everyone who attended the funeral, especially those who travelled from afar; John Verigin and Laura Verigin for their comforting words and sympathy; Jerry Seminoff for his guidance and thoughtfulness and for leading the funeral; the speakers who shared their special memories of Pauline during the service; Jim Popoff for translating the obituary into Russian; the cooks and their helpers for the delicious funeral meal; the pallbearers and the men who prepared the grave site; Everett and Deborah Baker and the staff of the Grand Forks Funeral Home for their caring service; and lastly Pauline's extended family for their help, support and love. Thank you and God bless you all.



In Memoriam
Vechnaya Pamyat

Preserving the memory of our deceased family members and friends