



Polly Chutskoff 1925 - 2013

Polly Chutskoff was born April 13, 1925 in Grand Forks, BC to parents Sergei and Nastia Esouloff. Polly was the second youngest in a family of five children: Pete, Annie, Jane, Polly and Molly.

During her childhood, her family lived in various locations in the Grand Forks area and made a living by farming and growing vegetables, not only for their own use, but also for sale. Due to family responsibilities and having had rheumatic fever at the age of 14, she was able to only partially complete grade seven in school.

At seventeen Polly started working in the Okanagan picking fruit. This continued off and on for about seven years. During her earlier Okanagan years, she took a correspondence nursing course. Although she did receive a diploma she didn't get a chance to pursue this career. At the age of 21 Polly met her future husband William Chutskoff, and after courting for three years, they married in 1949. They were blessed with three children: Barbara, Howard and Cynthia.

Polly, together with Bill, raised their children on their farm on Carson Road in Grand Forks. Being life long members of the USCC organization, it was important for both Bill and Polly to raise their children in the Doukhobor faith and instil the values of prayer, pacifism, vegetarianism and living a non-materialistic life. Over the years they proudly supported their children's spiritual and cultural Doukhobor activities, attending many youth festivals and choral concerts.

Polly was always ready to make her voluntary contributions to the community by participating in the ladies cooking groups and helping with the upkeep of the Community Centre, among other things.

For many years Polly was an avid participant in the Grand Forks Fall Fair where she displayed her cooking, baking, canning and crafts. She received first place recognition enough times to win the coveted Grand Aggregate prize for four years. Later, she became involved in the local Farmer's Market selling her bread, pies, borscht and pyrahi.

Living a frugal and nonextravagant lifestyle allowed Bill and Polly to not only provide for their family, but to travel and see much of the world, a passion they both shared. When the family was young the summer always included a road trip driving through various parts of Canada and the US, seeing the interesting sights and making many wonderful family memories. After her children were on their own, Polly continued her travelling adventures with Bill as long as their health allowed. They travelled by truck and camper, planes, cars, buses and ships, visiting many different states and countries such as Alaska, Hawaii, Russia, China, Europe, the Caribbean, Bahamas, Cuba and Tahiti.

As Bill's health began to decline, Polly took care of him in their family home until his eventual hospitalization in July of 2005. She remained living there for several years after Bill's passing in 2006. In

December of 2011 Polly relocated to White Rock to be closer to her son and his family, where she lived independently in her small and cozy apartment. There she suffered a heart attack and was recuperating at Peace Arch Hospital. Sadly, on March 15, 2013 she passed away peacefully in her sleep.

Polly was predeceased by her mother in 1958, father in 1978, sister Helen in infancy, brother Pete in 1982, sisters Annie in 1987, Jane in 2008 and Molly in 2011, daughter Cynthia Meehan in 1999, husband Bill in 2006 and daughter Barbara in 2011.

Polly leaves to mourn her, her loving family: son Howard and his wife Lorraine of Surrey; son-in-law Neil Meehan of Calgary; grandchildren Misha Chutskoff of Vancouver, Andrei and Matvei Chutskoff of Surrey, Kristina Meehan-Prins and her husband, Allan of Calgary, and Joe and Nick Meehan of Calgary; and great-grandson Emmitt Prins, also of Calgary.

Polly will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by all who knew her. May God accept her into His Heavenly Kingdom and may she rest in peace.

A traditional Doukhobor funeral was held on Saturday, March 23, 2013 at the USCC Community Center in Grand Forks. Burial followed at the Sion Doukhobor Cemetery.

The family is deeply appreciative of all those who expressed their sympathies and those who attended the service. We are also grateful to J.J. Verigin for his kind words, Peter Rezansoff for his help and guidance with the service, Jerry Seminoff for translating the biography into Russian, the singers, the ladies who served such a delicious meal, the men who prepared Polly's final resting place, and Everett Baker and his staff of the Grand Forks Funeral Home for their professional service and guidance.



In Memoriam
Vechnaya Pamyat

Preserving the memory of our deceased family members and friends