



Vera
Semenoff
1931 - 2012



It is with great sadness that our family announce the peaceful passing of our dear mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Vera Semenoff of Grand Forks, BC. Mom passed away in the loving presence of family at Hardyview Lodge, Thursday, February 16, 2012 at age 81.

Mom was born in Lundbreck, Alberta, on February 15, 1931; she was the third child of Peter and Helen Salekin. Mom grew up in a happy and loving environment with her parents, brothers, Mike, Harry and Larry, her maternal grandmother Konkin as well as her Aunt Emma and Uncle Tony Mushta and their two children, Peter and Mabel. She and her cousin Mabel would ride horse-back together to attend the "Gadshill" farm school with her older brothers watching over her at all times. Vera had many other aunts, uncles and cousins living in the Lundbreck area and so there were many large family gatherings and happy memories made in those days.

As a young woman, on a visit to Grand Forks and the Sunshine Valley, she met a young man, Pat Semenoff, son of Peter and Mary Semenoff. After a short courtship they were married on April 17, 1949. They lived in Coleman, Alberta for a few years and later settled in Grand Forks to raise their two children Elaine and Wally.

We have many wonderful childhood memories of Mom and Dad taking us camping to Osoyoos, picnicking at Christina Lake, spending time with Baba and Deda Semenoff and taking many road trips to visit our Salekin grandparents in Alberta. At a young age, we

were taught, by example, to work hard, to live in harmony, to love and respect our parents, grandparents and each other.

Mom and Dad were lifelong USCC members. When Dad joined the Grand Forks Men's Choir – they thoroughly enjoyed participating and travelling to different events and making new friends with the Tri-Choir members. Mom actively participated in the Ladies Cooking Groups and Ladies Choirs and was always willing to help and contribute when called upon to serve in all related functions.

Mom retired in 1989 after completing 25 years of service working for School District #12 as custodian for the John Hutton School. She enjoyed working at the school and was a conscientious employee who took great pride in keeping the school clean and tidy and had a wonderful relationship with the students and the staff.

Mom's most treasured joys and concerns in her life were her children and her granddaughter, Cosette. Mom was a very young grandmother. Both Mom and Dad loved watching her grow into the fine lady she is today. They shared many special times – Mom loved it when Cosette would go to Hutton School with her, where she played teacher, while waiting for her parents to pick her up on their way home from work.

Mom loved her garden and the abundance that it provided. Her love of family was evident in her affection and support of family members as well as her delicious home cooked family dinners. Her hospitality,

generosity and gentle nature was extended to all that knew her and it was her gift to all of us. She and Dad always looked forward to sharing quality time with all of us.

Mom is predeceased by her husband, Pat, her parents, Peter and Helen Salekin and her brothers Mike and Harry. She leaves behind daughter Elaine (John) Sookochoff of Grand Forks, son Wally (Valarie) Semenoff of Christina Lake, granddaughter Cosette (Mark) Kempston and great-granddaughter Kiana of Kelowna. She also leaves behind her brother Larry (Margaret) Salekin, niece Lynn (Chris) Parno of Airdrie, Alta., nephew Anthony Salekin of Calgary, Alta., nephew Don Salekin of Grand Forks as well as many extended family members and friends.

Mom will be sadly missed by her family, her relatives and friends. We will keep and cherish her memory in our hearts forever. May she rest in peace in God's Heavenly Kingdom.

*God made a wonderful mother - a mother who never grows old;
He made her smile out of sunshine, He moulded her heart out of gold;
He made her as near as an angel, as anyone ever could be;
God made a wonderful mother, and gave that dear mother to me.*

The family of Vera Semenoff would like to express a heartfelt thank you to everyone for coming and taking part in the service; to all who travelled from out of town; to the psalmists and all the congregation for the wonderful singing; John J. Verigin and all the Verigin family for their expression of sympathy and words of comfort; Jerry Seminoff for his guidance and for officiating mom's service; to our aunt Margaret for reading the Russian biography; to Brenda Semenoff for the beautiful singing; to all who spoke and for their kind words about our mom; to the USCC ladies cooking group for preparing a very tasty luncheon and to all the ladies who brought the lovely baking; to all the men for preparing the gravesite; Grand Forks Funeral Home - Everett Baker and his staff for the guidance and professional service; to the USCC office ladies, Stephanie and Fay; to Jim Popoff and John Kalmakov for their work on mom's funeral notice for the USCC website; to all the staff at Hardy View Lodge, Annesley Cottage, for the loving care and attention given to our mom; to everyone who phoned, visited and brought food and flowers; for all the donations; to all our aunties, uncles, extended family and good friends a big thank you for all the times you visited and looked in on our mom at the Lodge - and just for the times you called and gave us moral support - it meant a lot to us.

We most sincerely thank everyone for their kindness and thoughtfulness. We appreciate all your support - it will always be remembered.



In Memoriam
Vechnaya Pamyat

Preserving the memory of our deceased family members and friends