

Hello friends, this is Dave Love again. In the interim since I last enquired about Marjorie Norris and reported to you that she was well but had dementia, I just found out today that she passed away on March 3. This is a bad month for news for me and I am sure for you all also. I have copied her obituary below for your information. I will try to contact the family on your behalf in the next few days to give condolences. Please take care



**Marjorie Barron Norris**  
**February 11, 1923 - March 3, 2021**

Marjorie (Marj, Mother, Mom, Grammy and GG) embarked on the Great Nature Walk at the remarkable age of 98 this March 3, 2021. She is survived by her daughters Laine (Les), Margaret (Brian), grandchildren Katherine, Matthew (Shylah) and Whitney (Garry) and great grandchildren Stanley and Oliver, Griffin and Gia, her niece Diane (Barry), and other close extended family. Marjorie was predeceased by her husband Stanley, sister Louise (Bud) Currie and nephew David Currie.

On a cold and snowy February 11 in 1923, a doctor and nurse arrived by horse-drawn cutter to a farmhouse owned by Oliver and Jessie Parsons near Oak Lake, Manitoba. The medical pair delivered two, tiny undiagnosed twins: first Louise weighing two and a half pounds, followed by Marjorie at three and a half pounds. The doctor believed they could not save Louise, but that Marjorie might survive. Jessie was a Registered Nurse and Oliver had raised calves his whole life, and the two doting parents took turns sitting beside the babies and feeding them with eyedroppers every time they opened their small mouths. Against all odds, and partially due to life-long stubbornness, both twins survived in excellent health with Louise passing at the age of 94.

The Parsons family moved to Nanton, Alberta in 1929 where Marjorie completed grade school and later her Bachelor of Education at the University of Alberta. It was at the U of A that Marjorie met a shy young sailor named Stanley Norris at a ladies-choice dance and they were married a year and a half later in 1945, remaining together for 50 years until his passing. Marjorie's life revolved around clubs - in those days it was expected of one's spouse. She was a founding member of the University of Calgary Women's Faculty Club and lifelong member of the Local Council of Women (awarded a lifetime membership). Through this she joined The National Council of Women (awarded a lifetime membership) and received the Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Medal in recognition of her service to both organizations.

Municipal politics drew her sharp mind and after building a cottage at Half Moon Bay, Alberta, she was instrumental in forming that Summer Village's council, where she served as both Councillor and Mayor. This led to service at The Red Deer Regional Planning Commission on the Board of Directors of The Alberta Association of Summer Villages, with four years as President.

Marjorie was an adventurer, and Stanley loved to wander. They spent a year in Aberystwyth, Wales where Stanley was a visiting Professor, a year in Harrogate while he was a visiting Professor at the University of Leeds, and six months in Linton, England, following his retirement. After Stanley's passing, Marjorie authored and published four non-fiction books: *Sister Heroines*, *Medicine and Duty*, *A Leaven of Ladies*, and *The Do-Gooders*.

Through all of her journeys, feminist intellectual pursuits and writing, Marjorie also brought two remarkable daughters into the world. Their childhood took them from Alberta to California to Wales. They always had dogs, cats, horses and even a duck. Later in life, Marjorie became Grammy to three grandchildren and then GG to great grandchildren. She always made time for Sunday dinners with family and never once passed up dessert.

Key to her long life was her love of going for Nature Walks down long tree-covered Riverdale Avenue to Sandy Beach. Whenever she was asked about her health she would respond, "Well, I couldn't lick my weight in wildcats." Goodbye Marjorie, Mother, Mom, Grammy, and GG, you left an indelible mark during your 98 years and lived a truly extraordinary life.

The family would like to express our eternal gratitude to the staff at the Staywell Manor and Alannah Little, her devoted companion and friend. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Bomber Command Museum of Canada in Nanton, Alberta.

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