



## **REMEMBERING Aniela Gierc**

January 3, 1927 - December 30, 2013



Aniela Gierc (Idziak) left us peacefully, with her family at her side, on December 30th, 2013. She is survived by her husband Frank of 68 years, her four children Wanda (Vern), Joe (Karen), Frank Jr. (Anne), and Tom (Lael), as well as a large extended family. Mom was a dedicated *babcia* to 12 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren, who have wonderful memories of family dinners, needle point, her Belgian waffles, and the koi fish pond.

Mom was born in the Konin region of Poland, the youngest of six children. During WWII her family was relocated to Germany, where she worked on a farm. She met Frank in Germany; the two eventually moved to the United Kingdom, where Frank worked as an army mechanic. Following the birth of their first child, they immigrated to Argentina (1948) and had two more children. Finally, in 1956, the family immigrated to Canada, settling in the Cowichan Valley and having their final child.

Aniela worked various jobs throughout the Valley, but her real passion was tending to her large garden, dairy cows, and roses. She was heavily involved with the local Polish community, hosting regular Sunday brunches and attending parties in Nanaimo and Ladysmith. Mom and Dad lived in Glenora for 40 years before moving into town. Though she initially protested, she came to enjoy visiting the Farmer's Market, caring for her pet fish, and doting on the family dogs. Grandma was extremely dedicated to her grandkids, frequently hosting sleep overs, ice cream sick days, watching movies, and preparing university care packages filled with socks and baking.

A Mass for Christian burial will be celebrated at St. Edward's Church, 2085 Maple Bay Road, Duncan, BC, on Monday, January 6th, at 11:00AM. Reception to follow

in church basement, followed by interment at Mountain View Cemetery.

