



Myrna Anne Handel



May 3, 1931—December 1, 2003

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Myrna Handel passed away suddenly in North Vancouver on December 1, 2003 at the age of 72. She was born Myrna Anne Yelland on May 3, 1931 in Vancouver, B.C, and spent her childhood in North Vancouver, where her mother Edith ran a boarding house. Myrna never knew her father, Albert, who was a sailor. She was the youngest of seven children, with five brothers; Albert, Norm, Ken, Lloyd and Keith and one sister, Jean. Myrna met Bob Handel, also a North Vancouver native, and they married in Toronto in November 1949. Their first two children, Brant and Debbie, were born in Toronto before Bob, a hydro engineer, obtained a new position in Victoria, B.C where they made many lifelong friends. Two more children were born there, Kent and Leah. In 1963 they moved again, this time coming back to their roots in North Vancouver, where one more son, Todd was born in 1964.

Myrna's first love was her family, and she truly enjoyed tiny babies, both her own, and her many grandchildren. She said that there was no better smell in the world than the smell of a little baby. Myrna will be remembered by a whole generation as the "Calico Candy Lady", with her tiny chocolate shop, first on

Lonsdale Avenue, then later on East 14th Street. Even after her retirement, she continued to help out on every holiday at her friend's shop, "Charlie's Chocolate Factory".

She truly loved her second home in Kye Bay, on Vancouver Island. For many years, Bob, Myrna and Bob's brother Doug and sister-in-law Bette ran Cathay Resort in the Bay. Many people will remember the great barbeques that were held there all through the summer months, year after year. After the resort was sold, Myrna bought a house close by so she could continue to go to the quiet retreat of "the Bay". Over the years, her family joined her many times to enjoy the sunshine and the beach.

Myrna will leave a lasting memory – she gave birth to her own dynasty, with her five children and nine grandchildren. She raised them to be honest, hardworking and kind, all qualities that she herself possessed. Although she was taken from us too soon, her memory will live on through them, and she will never be forgotten.

