

## JEANNIE LOCATELLI



My three children: Miranda Cobb, youngest on the left, Zoë Cobb, 2nd child.kicking her heels up, me !!, and the eldest on the right, Rory Cobb.

As everyone else has said....how to begin the 50 year life's journey...I guess at the start.



*Skiing near Prince George, 1971*

Having graduating from Oak Bay, I entered UVic in Education. I only lasted until we did our practicum (2<sup>nd</sup> year), and Prince George came calling for teachers; graduates or not. I was in the 'not' category, and just bursting to move on in life. I loved it for about three years when I made a decision that I was going to work my way across Canada, so I headed out for Calgary, Alberta. In Calgary I worked as an elementary school teacher, just as planned.

In Calgary, I met new friends, who became life long friends, and I joined the Lake Louise Ski Patrol. Loved it! Met my husband-to-be, who was on exchange in Canada as a British Army Officer. This



*Hang gliding near Calgary, 1973*

was something I would not have written in my Oak Bay yearbook of how my future looked. We married, he left the army, we raised three children, lived in the UK for five years, and moved back to Calgary in 1988. We continued the connection with the Calgary Polo Club where the children all learned to ride, and particularly enjoyed running around the stables. We lived in the country again, and kept horses, so they were pretty savvy with livestock.



*Downhill skiing in the Bugaboos, 1975*



*In California on our way to the UK*



*1994 – Back in Canada (Calgary Polo Club)*

After that I finally finished my BEd, qualified to teach Adult ESL, and was in the teaching game again. Lots of things happened after that. The marriage ended, children went on to post secondary

in the eastern provinces, so when they graduated, I fulfilled my dream of going to all the different provinces in Canada.

As I write this note, I became a grandparent for the first time (4 hours ago). My son and his wife, who live here in Calgary, just delivered a baby girl. He's the eldest of my three, and has trained in Avionics. His sister, who is an actor/choreographer/director in London, England, will get married in Italy next year. She will be followed by her younger sister, who is a political economist, living in Halifax. She'll probably marry in Halifax. So. I'm off again to eastern Canada! Not bad.

I love being in the outdoors, and have spent tons of time skiing, not downhill anymore; I'm anti crowds, but love cross country. I love to golf, and hike, and garden. I don't get as much of the latter here in Calgary as I would in Victoria, but I guess that was my choice. So, in a nutshell, there I am. Oh, right, I still work, now as an English Language Assessor, but hope to be nearing the end of that. The best part of this job is that I have no prep., no marking outside working hours, and no reports...well, not outside working hours. Life is good!



*2001 – I finally made it to the East Coast. Zoë's graduation from Mt. Allison University, N.B.*