

## Marilyn Nicolls



I'm pictured here with my best granddog, Farley, who lives in Calgary with my daughter Jennifer, husband Jeremy, and my two grandsons Matthew and Nathan. Some of my best times are spent hanging out with these fellows sharing my passions for nature, birding, photography, quilting, cardmaking, hiking, etc. Son David and his wife Jennifer live in Fort St. John where they lead active and busy lives too. My days are filled spending time with my Mom, staying in touch with other family and friends, and traveling to such places as Asia, England, the North Baltic region, Mexico, Hawaii, and in the Fall to New Zealand and Australia. Genealogy is an interesting current pursuit too.

Where has the time gone? From OBHS I studied at UVic for two years, then moved to UBC for my Bachelor of Home Economics and 5th Year Education. My first job was in Kamloops where I taught for three years. Then I moved to Coquitlam to attend SFU for a session, taught school in Port Coquitlam and married a fellow from my Kamloops days. We moved to Victoria for him to begin at UVic, also where my son and daughter were born. We moved to Vancouver for his Forestry studies at UBC. I also began a Masters programme in Early Childhood Education. However he finished sooner than I did, so I left my studies and we moved to Duncan, Sandspit, Sayward, and Port Alberni in the Forest industry. Lots of packing and moves. I worked as I was able in substituting and other related jobs. In 1995 I returned to Victoria to be closer to my Mom.

My life has not been without its challenges for in 1999 I was diagnosed with NonHodgkins Lymphoma. Surgery and chemo followed. This experience has changed my outlook on life to treasure family, friends and the gift of each day. I have found too that it certainly helps to have a positive outlook, a sense of humour, and a grounding in faith to sustain you through these tough times. I have been fortunate and life is good!

Thanks to the organizing committee for their work. Looking forward to seeing you soon!