

MEMORIES OF (BETTY) ZARIKOFF (nee Fominoff)

Celebration of Life August 19, 2022

This memory was read at Betty's funeral August 19, 2022.

The funeral notice is from the leaflet made available at the Brilliant Cultural Center where the funeral was held.



It was the custom, at one time, that Doukhobours would get together and assist each other to build their homes. I was at Peter Samolayoff's basement concrete pour when I met Peter Maloff. Arrangements were made to have the customary meal after, at the Maloff house. Betty was assisting Polly, offering their nearby home for this occasion. I was impressed with the benevolence of Betty at that time.

There were many heart-breaking events that took place in Betty's life but she did meet Bill Zarikoff and they joined the Doukhobour Cultural Association (DCA). They participated with about sixteen (16) families, enthusiastically, in the following events:

1. Every member had to serve in all executive positions and Betty performed them very
2. Participated in creating and performing the Doukhobour Sports Day with one of her talents in making Peace Burgers
3. Attended many trips to Green City where all gathered Huckleberries and camped in the wilds of Erie Creek. Saturday nights were special events that left many memories with the Participants
4. There were trips to the Okanagan and Vancouver Island to research senior housing projects and Retreats
5. With all the DCA members, she joined the Doukhobour Benevolent Society and developed a ten (10) unit seniors project in Castlegar. Betty took her turn to operate the facility while Bill performed the duties as Administrator.
6. In DCA socials, Betty conducted skits with Bill that were unique and very enjoyable.
7. When the DCA wanted to make a difference in society, Betty and Bill became signatories to a Credit Union loan of \$140,000 with sixteen (16) families which was used to purchase Whatshan Lake Retreat in 1980. In recent times, she was part of the substantial agreement to have the DCA donate the entire developed project to a charitable non profit Doukhobour Heritage Retreat Society #1999.

8. On windup of DCA, the Zarikoff family participated in the distribution of a large amount of cash to worthy local charities.
9. Betty and Bill Participated in the DCA formation of Kootenay Columbia Seniors Housing Cooperative (KCSHC). This involved selecting a site along with the final designs for the sixty (60) acre project. Part of that decision was to fund the initial \$50,000 necessary to complete designs and associated costs. The Grandview name was part of the DCA membership creation. Zarikoffs purchased a seniors unit along with five (5) other DCA members for the forty seven (47) Phase I units.

Betty took courses in Accounting and served as Treasurer on the Grandview Strata Council for a few years.

10. Betty was a sports enthusiast and joined an infamous Bowling Team named Green City Gamblers. I do not have confirmation but I understand that the Team won a Cup of some description
11. Grandview had a Sunday Morning Breakfast Club which Betty enjoyed with many of us.

Perhaps, I can end this tribute to Betty Zarikoff to say that my early meeting of her was enjoyed throughout our lives in Castlegar. Especially as our neighbour at Grandview.

Now that you are with Bill and your loved ones that have passed before, Rest in Peace.

Composed by Elmer, Marilyn Verigin and Lawrence and Kathy Popoff August 17, 2022

Posted in my blog August 23, 2022