



## Nellie Watson 1924 - 2017

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of a long time resident of Dawson Creek and area; our loving mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, **Nellie Watson**. Nellie passed away on Monday, February 20, 2017 in Rotary Manor, Dawson Creek, B.C. at the age of 92 years.

Anastasia Bonderchuk was born in a village in Poland on May 10, 1924 where she lived until 1931 when she boarded the *Alaunia* with her mother, brother and sister for their voyage to Canada.

Nellie finished her education and was offered an opportunity to move to Dawson Creek for work. She was quick to make friends, enjoyed socializing and attending community dances.

Nellie met Gordon at a dance and they fell in love and were married in the United Church on August 10, 1945.

Gordon was discharged from the RCAF in 1946, in June of that year they returned to the Peace and purchased the Farmington Store. Before selling the store in 1952, they homesteaded land at Mile 14 on the Alaska Highway. The hard work of clearing the land and building a home had begun.

In 1955 they started their family with the birth of Loretta. Their family expanded again in May of 1957 when Ronda was born. They raised their two daughters on the farm in Farmington. A second farm in Sunset Prairie was cleared and developed in the 1970's. Gordon and Nellie divided their time between the two farms. In 1975, Loretta and her husband purchased the majority of the land at Farmington.

Nellie will always be remembered for the abundance of delicious food she would prepare for friends and family. Nellie had a passion for gardening vegetables and flowers. She also loved to pick wild berries. When Nellie sat down at the end of the day her hands would be busy with knitting needles, crochet hooks or a tatting shuttle.

Nellie served as a Director on the Dawson Creek Co-Op Board for many years, which she really enjoyed. She was quick to volunteer and was soon a staple at the weekly Bingo games and potlucks at Heritage Heights. She loved playing cards and enjoyed socializing at community functions.

Nellie was predeceased by her husband Gordon, her parents Nick and Anna, her brother Henry, and her in-laws Ruth and Bill.

Nellie will be forever remembered by her daughters Loretta (Ken) and Ronda (Elgin), her grandchildren: Laurie (Allan), Dwayne (Amy), Cynthia, Andtrea and Norton (Emily), her great grandchildren: Scott, Bradley, James, Dylan, Kobe, Zane, Chance, Jarin and Cale, as well as her sister Mary and her family, and many close friends and neighbors.

A Funeral Service was held on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 11:00 AM at Reynars Funeral Home. Reverend Marilyn Carroll officiated. Interment followed in the Sunrise Valley Mountainview Cemetery. For friends so wishing, donations may be made in memory of **Nellie** to the South Peace United Church Memorial Fund 1300-104 Avenue, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 2J6.

Very Respectfully Reynars Funeral Home and Crematorium [www.reynars.com](http://www.reynars.com)