



## Donna Stokes (nee Milligan)

March 30, 1934 - September 13, 2018

### Safely Home

I am in Heaven dear ones,  
Oh, so happy and so bright,  
There is perfect joy and beauty,  
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief are over,  
Every restless tossing passed,  
I am now at peace forever,  
Safely home in Heaven at last.

Did you wonder I so calmly,  
Trode the valley of the shade?  
Oh, but Jesus' love illumined,  
Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came himself to meet me,  
In that way so hard to tread,  
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,  
Could I have one doubt or dread.

Then you must not grieve so sorely,  
For I love you dearly still.  
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,  
Pray to trust our Father's will.

There is work still waiting for you,  
So, you must not idly stand;  
Do it now while life remaineth,

You shall rest in Jesus' land.

When the work is all completed,  
He will gently call you home,  
Oh, the rapture of that meeting,  
Oh, the joy to see you come.

After a long and courageous illness, it is with great sadness the family announces Donna's passing on September 13, 2018 at age 84. She was the loving mother of Terry Sangster (Andy) and Maureen Salvisburg (Jeff); dear Nana of Andrew, Robert, Kevin and Laura; beloved sister of Anna Godry (Louie) and Rosemary Dwyer (John). Donna was predeceased by husband Robert (Bob) Stokes and parents John and Rosie Milligan. As per her request cremation has taken place and there will be no service.

# Comments

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“ When I think of you, a flood of memories comes to mind. Ever since I was a little girl, you have been someone that I could look up to with great pleasure; a beautiful kind soul, a heart full of love to give, a personality unique from the rest, a mind full of information and stories to give. Nana, you are the most special human being I have ever come across in my entire existence, and I feel honoured to have been part of your life.

If you had the privilege to know my nana, there is no doubt you would have found that she was one of the best people you have known. She had the ability to make you feel safe and comfortable. Whether she was telling you about history or updating you about events in the world, she never failed to bring a smile to your face. My nana was ridiculously intelligent. You could ask her anything and she never disappointed to give an answer full of information and creativity. Yes, she may have been extremely stubborn but can you blame her? When you are a strong and independent woman confident in what you believe, going against your thoughts seems almost impossible. I appraise her for that.

One of her most amazing qualities was how selfless and kind-hearted she could be. Although she did not have much money, she went Christmas shopping all year round. She was determined to buy as many gifts for everyone, including all of the kids around the neighbourhood as she possibly could. She donated to the SPCA whenever she had the ability. I lived with her for half a year, and it became clear to me how kind she really was. My nana made daily calls to family just to check up on them and see how they were doing. She was always concerned about the well-being of others and consistently put everyone else's needs above her own. My nana has taught me many things throughout our time together. Most importantly she emphasized that no matter how hard life gets, you just need to push through. She faced many difficulties in her life. When her husband passed away, she had to adapt to the new lifestyle. She learned how to drive, raised two amazing women, all while dealing with hardships at work. Finally, she survived 17 months in the hospital without giving up. My nana faced with courage every obstacle she came across.

The moral of the story that I gained from her is to keep going no matter what. I will remember my nana as that little red-haired lady who I could count on for anything and everything; the woman I could talk to on the phone for a half hour while losing track of time, a person I could tell my secrets to and feel comforted by the advice she provided. I will never ever forget her. Her spirit will live with not only me, but all of those that were a part of her life. Nana, I love you so much and thank you for everything that you have taught us and done for all of us.





“ Maureen, Jeff, Kevin and Laura you are in our hearts. Although we didn't meet your mother and nana personally we have heard many stories. Take comfort in each other and in the legacy she left behind for your family. Thinking of you, stay strong.



Lora Baliva - September 27, 2018 at 11:46 AM

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“ We are so sorry Terry and Maureen to hear about the loss of your beloved mother. She was a generous and kind person, especially to our dear father Jim. Our family enjoyed having "hen" attend many parties and family get togethers. May your loving memories forever be close to your hearts. She is the brightest star in the sky and when you feel that gentle breeze from behind, that is your reminder she is with you. Thinking of you all, love Tom and Donna Salisbury and family.

Donna and Tom Salisbury (nee Arsenault) - September 26, 2018 at 05:28 PM

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maureen - September 26, 2018 at 10:09 AM

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“ I have fond memories of your mom ~ she was always so welcoming and generous to me (and all of our friends) when I dropped over in my teen years. She was one of the 'cool' moms. I'm sure you will miss her very much. Take care ~ Kim Healy

Kim Healy - September 26, 2018 at 10:05 AM

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maureen - September 26, 2018 at 09:53 AM

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maureen - September 26, 2018 at 09:49 AM

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maureen - September 26, 2018 at 09:40 AM

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maureen - September 26, 2018 at 09:38 AM



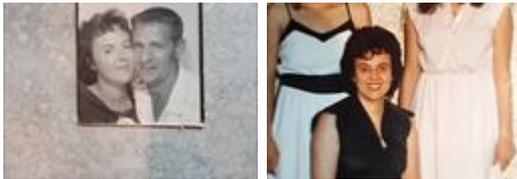
“ Such a lovely picture

**Donna and Tom Salisbury (nee Arsenault)** - September 26, 2018 at 05:31 PM

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maureen - September 26, 2018 at 09:18 AM

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Maureen Salvisburg - September 25, 2018 at 09:44 PM

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Maureen Salvisburg - September 25, 2018 at 09:43 PM

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Maureen Salvisburg - September 25, 2018 at 09:42 PM

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Maureen Salvisburg - September 25, 2018 at 09:41 PM

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Maureen Salvisburg - September 25, 2018 at 09:28 PM

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Maureen Salvisburg - September 25, 2018 at 09:28 PM

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**Maureen Salvisburg** - September 25, 2018 at 09:24 PM

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## “ LOVE

“Where there is great love, there are always miracles.”

This miracle occurred the day my beloved mother was born. I call it the miracle of family love. My mom showed me the true meaning of unconditional love.

My mom told me stories about her darling Grannie Milligan, her parents, her aunts/uncles and cousins. A big smile would appear on her face while she shared her childhood memories. You only get this precious smile from the miracle of love.

When my father passed away at such a young age, my family was there for us. We were not alone.

There was great love between my grandfather Milligan and my mother. There was a time in my grandfather's life when he was unable to live by himself, so he came to live with my mom. Every night they would sit together, have a drink, and enjoy each other's company. They would laugh and share stories.

I witnessed the love between my children and their nana. My son Kevin would faithfully take me down to the hospital for weekly visits. My daughter Laura was always at my mom's hospital bed holding her hand and giving her loving encouragement.

My mom also had a special relationship with her other grandchildren. Andrew would sit with her for hours and talk about history (one of her favourite topics). Robert would cook my mom's supper and was company to her while he lived with her.

I seen the relationship between her sons-in-laws, Andy and Jeff. I can picture Jeff and my mom having a drink of rye and laughing. Andy regularly visited my mom at the hospital. He would walk in the room with a big smile and he always did his best to cheer her up.

We all loved my mom as much as she loved us.

I know my mom is looking down from heaven with love and joy. She is at peace because my family is looking after me and I am not alone. My Aunt Rosemary and Aunt Anna have flourished me with their caring love. My Uncle John has given me advise and always succeeded to calm my Irish temper. Cousin Bob has taken me by the hand and has guided me through the difficult process of losing a loved one.

I am so fortunate that I was born into this family. The miracle of love has been passed down from my beautiful mother and it will never die. My soul is filled with her caring and loving nature. It will be passed down to future generations.

My heart is full of sorrow. I love my Mom so much and I miss her dearly. I just want one more encounter with her, but I know that is not possible. I feel like a little girl aching to be embraced in my mother's tender and loving arms. It gives me comfort

knowing that one day I will see her again when I leave this world. When it is my time, I know my mom will come down and take me to the Gates of Heaven where all my loved ones will be waiting for me.

“I Love You Mommy”

Your Baby Beans (Maureen)



Maureen Salvisburg - September 25, 2018 at 09:21 PM

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“ Terry and Maureen

So sorry to hear of the passing of Donna. She was always very generous to our family, especially to my Dad. Their companionship meant a lot to my Dad, and she was a big part of his life. My fondest memory was the surprise retirement party you guys threw for him many many moons ago. Keep your memories of your mother in your heart and she will be with you forever.  
Take care

James and Shaunagh Arsenault

James Arsenault - September 22, 2018 at 06:06 PM

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“ Phelim Brucculeri lit a candle in memory of Donna Stokes (nee Milligan)



Phelim Brucculeri - September 22, 2018 at 11:13 AM



“ Donna and my Mother (Teresa Brucculeri) were very good friends in there day. Our family and Donna's two girls, Terri and Maureen would go on picnics to Long Point for an day on the beach. This is one of the memories I have of my Aunt Donna as we called her as children. My Sadness and condolences go out to Terri And Maureen.! As well as the Dwyer Family. She is in an better place No pain, No worries. God Bless!

Phelim - September 22, 2018 at 11:25 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Circle Of Life Cremation and Burial Centre Inc.** - September 21, 2018 at 11:40 AM