



## Barbara (Bonnie) Elizabeth Bean

February 21, 2023

Barbara (Bonnie) Elizabeth Bean

Our mom died as she wished on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, with the help of MAiD, having sorted and decluttered everything (well almost everything) she owned. She loved her three children, Mary, Tupper (Emma) and Bryan and grandchildren Caroline, David, Travis and Pippa fiercely. She also loved her wonderful friends, her privileged summers at the family cottage, her sexual health work, helping with rummage sales, reusing, recycling, reducing, regifting, repairing, volunteering, singing, butter, bubbly and much more. She asked us to remind friends to remove her from their contact lists but not from their happy memories.

A small gathering to celebrate her life will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the YWCA ([ywcatoronto.org](http://ywcatoronto.org)) or a charity of your choice.

# Tribute Wall

AG

“ 1 file added to the album community Memories



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**Alan Gasser** - March 21, 2023 at 12:46 PM

BM

“ I only knew Bonnie for a few years, but I really enjoyed her company. Her loss will be felt greatly by all at the church. Bonnie was a wonderful person and such a happy, caring friend to have. I already miss her. Barb Moote

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**Barbara Moote** - March 13, 2023 at 11:32 AM

DL

“ Bonnie - you touched my life and made the world a better place. You were a one of a kind. Your original thought and candour were awesome traits, but your kindness was the best! We will miss you but always think of you. XXX Donna (Lang)

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**Donna Lang** - March 12, 2023 at 10:32 AM

MW

“ To Bonnie's family - my sincere condolences for your loss. Bonnie was a force to be reckoned with when it came to Outreach and caring for others. I feel blessed to have worked with her, to have learned from her, and to have felt the benefit of her humour and common sense approach. May you find comfort in sharing memories and stories. We will miss Bonnie very much.

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**Maggie Wilkinson** - March 11, 2023 at 10:50 AM

JA

“ I first met Bonnie at The Treblemakers Choir where she sat beside me and I always counted on her to cover up my singing mistakes after I told her to sing louder than me!  
She had a social conscience that I admired as she worked tirelessly to help others in need.  
I am also in awe of her courage and calmness in dealing pragmatically with her health issues. What an inspiration!  
And of course I will miss our dinners and laughter together.  
My condolences to all her family and her other friends.

*Judith Ash March 9, 2023*

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**Judith Ash** - March 09, 2023 at 06:04 PM

RF

“ Our many chats and discussions have opened my mind to so many things. Memories of our long walks, going to documentaries, swimming together at Heather's and at your cottage, suppers together, volunteering at MAIDS and working at the rummage sales together.

*When I think of all what I aspire to be in life, I think of you. You have taught and given me so very much and I will always cherish every moment of our friendship.*

*My life is better for having known you. You are the strongest and bravest person I know and the best friend I have ever had. I am praying for you to feel peace and to know how much you are loved.*

*My sincere condolences to your wonderful family.*

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**Rosalie Foyle** - March 03, 2023 at 12:13 PM

EA

“ To the family of dear Bonnie....what a great legacy of love your Mom has left. You were such a big part of Bonnie’s life and were always spoken of so fondly and lovingly. My heart aches beyond words at this great loss— the world is a better place for having Bonnie in it. I have known Bonnie since our DPH days...the 80’s, and always marvelled at her sense of calm, sensibility, humility and of course, her great sense of humour.  
I miss Bonnie terribly, and yes, deleted from contacts but never, ever from our hearts and memories!

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**Elizabeth Attard** - February 28, 2023 at 09:28 AM

SH

*I have not met your mom however stumbled across her obit and felt we could have been fast friends. In fact I sent the obit to my children and said , just replace the names and there is my obit. Blessings to you all, her family, as you navigate this next chapter . It sounds like your mom left a remarkable legacy. Xoxo*

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**shannon** - March 03, 2023 at 11:33 PM

KS

“ Bonnie ❤️ Lovingly remembered



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**Karen Salij** - February 28, 2023 at 02:37 AM

PD

“ My deepest condolences to Mary, Tupper and Bryan and to all of Bonnie's many friends and loved ones. Bonnie sang in my adult community choir for many years...I always looked forward to chatting with her at practice! She was a wonderful, caring, and kind friend to me, especially during these last few years, when we enjoyed some lovely walks together, and many interesting and inspiring conversations. I will miss Bonnie very much...and I will be forever grateful for having been blessed by her light.

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**Penelope Dale** - February 27, 2023 at 08:10 PM

HQ

“ To Mary, Tupper and Bryan and to all of Bonnie's myriad friends... my sincere condolences. I always thought Bonnie would live into her 90's like her parents and was sorry to learn of her cancer and suffering. She was a fascinating person and her friendship meant a lot to me. Always ready to help and with great advice and caring love, I shared parts of Bonnie's interesting life for about 30 years. We had so much fun cooking together and laughing in the two years I lived in her home in Toronto and every time we had a chance to see one another since. Speaking to her in the last few days was sad but I had known for years she was not afraid of death and she was ready to go in the end. I hope one day, to be able to see her again and to share another happy evening together. She will be dearly missed by me and so many others!

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**Harry Qualman** - February 27, 2023 at 10:22 AM

BW

“ Fondly remembering feisty Bonnie! Condolences to Mary and the rest of the family. Being more like Bonnie is something to aspire to!

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**Becca Whitla** - February 26, 2023 at 06:27 PM

JV

“ Although Bonnie and I both went to Trinity, we became friends when, as married women, we met in Halifax. She was a new mom to Tupper and I was a new mom to Ondine. We both moved back to Toronto and kept up the friendship, but not frequently. She must have had myriads of friends! It was so easy to be with her with her warmth and directness. I am so glad to have spoken to her recently!  
How lucky you, her children, are to have had such a wonderful mom.  
With best wishes for you all, Joan Varley

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**Joan Varley** - February 26, 2023 at 03:41 PM

AG

“ I can't remember Bonnie quite correctly, without recalling her own mother, and without sending condolences to her daughter, my dear friend Mary Bean, to whom I wish the utmost of courage and strength, for bearing the loss and continuing to keep the good memories close. Much love.

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**Alan Gasser** - February 25, 2023 at 08:06 PM

DR

“ Bonnie was a wonderful friend to my parents. Their time renting her cottage every summer was a highlight of their life for many years. After my mother died, Bonnie was a steadfast friend accompanying my father to the ballet, and having him and other old friends over for dinners. She was always wonderfully down to earth. My father will miss her deeply, as will we.

*Dylan Reid*

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**Dylan Reid** - February 25, 2023 at 04:51 PM

AM

“ Bonnie not only generously shared her cottage, she shared her family. She introduced me to her Italian cousins who were welcoming hosts in Rome in the early '90s. She also welcomed MY cousins to her cottage. She was practical, resourceful, caring and enormous fun--I will miss her madly. To her family--deepest sympathy. She was a wonderful woman.....Anne Moon

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**Anne Moon** - February 25, 2023 at 12:53 PM

PH

“ My wonderful best friend, Bonnie, Of over 45 years is gone and I am heartbroken. she was always there for me in sadness and joy and I miss her so much. Bonnie was a generous and caring person with a heart full of compassion for others. A tireless fighter for the rights of women with a front door always open to welcome. She was happiest at her cottage in Muskoka and shared it's beauty generously with many. There are so many memories to treasure both from our lives in Toronto and her visits to B.C. that fill my heart and enrich my life. Thank you dearest, treasured friend. Fly free.

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**Patricia Houston** - February 25, 2023 at 11:58 AM