



Irene Vivienne Stokes

December 27, 2022

With great sadness, we announce that Irene Vivienne Stokes has passed away peacefully on December 27th at the age of 77.

Irene was the wife of Barry Hood, loving mother of Ashley, mother-in-law of Evan and doting grandmother of Oliver.

Born in Manchester, England in 1945, Irene moved to Canada meeting Barry and working as a receptionist in Barry's dental office keeping him in line and organized.

Irene enjoyed travelling and frequently went back to visit family at home in England, visiting family in the US for Thanksgiving and spent time in her youth volunteering on a Kibbutz in Israel.

Irene loved working in her garden always finding room to squeeze in more plants. She especially loved volunteering at the Milne House Garden Club at the Toronto Botanical Gardens.

When not gardening, Irene enjoyed going to the opera with Barry, entertaining and laughing with friends and spoiling her grandson.

A Celebration of Life is being planned for the spring, when the gardens are in bloom.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Toronto Botanical Gardens.

Tribute Wall

PC

“ I have just found about that Irene has passed away. She will be missed deeply. I will miss the great conversation we used to have while we give her window and eaves cleaning service at her house. It is so sad; please accept our condolences. Brock

Perfect Window Cleaning - June 05, 2023 at 02:47 PM

MU

“ Such a shock to find out my dear cousin has passed away . Such wonderful memories of Irene going back so many years . The fabulous times we had in the Eccles 18 Group in our teens . I last met up with Irene around 11 years ago, when she was visiting her sister and family in the UK. After my brother died in 2014 , I spent every winter skiing in the Alps , and sadly lost touch with Irene. My condolences to all her family in Canada and the UK.

Malcolm Uttley - March 29, 2023 at 07:47 AM

HA

Dear Dr Barry Hood and family , we just found out today about the loss of Irene. We are saddened to hear this. We met her last October in the Billy Bishop Costco and had a lovely chat with her. We loved chatting about England and sharing story's. We would like to send our sincere condolences to Barry and his Daughter and famiky . May she rest in peace love Steve and Helen & Stefan Tsaparis

Helen Anderson - April 27, 2023 at 06:20 PM

SL

“ I am stunned to hear (so belatedly) of Irene's passing. She was a fellow avid gardener and friend--lived 'up the hill' from me and was always a familiar presence at the Toronto Botanical Garden. We often shared gardening tips and advice--visited each other's gardens. My sincerest condolences to Barry and Ashley and her family. She was so proud of her grandson. She will be missed.

Susan Lipchak - February 03, 2023 at 12:34 PM

BC

“ From Robyn and Bill Collins:
We were shocked to hear of the passing of Irene. We fondly remember the fantastic hospitality we received when we stayed with Irene and Barry in Toronto in July 2015. During our stay it was Robyn's birthday and Irene and Barry hosted a wonderful birthday celebration. Irene organised a delicious birthday cake. The celebration was attended by Ashley and her family, and Nicole (our daughter) and her family who were living in Toronto at the time.
Special Memories.
Irene will be sadly missed. Our condolences to Barry, and to Ashley and her family.

Bill Collins - January 16, 2023 at 11:54 PM

SE

“ We are sorry for your loss. May you have all the good memories in your hearts forever.
Condolences from Sandi, Jonathan, Jake and Dean Emanuel.

Sandi Emanuel - January 16, 2023 at 04:36 AM

WG

“ We were shocked and deeply saddened to learn of Irene’s passing scant days after a convivial lunch she and Barry hosted at the UofT Faculty Club’s Christmas buffet. We will fondly remember her for her friendship, her winning personality and the forthright opinions delivered with quirky English humour over so many years at the opera, after the opera, around the garden and everywhere else where being with Irene would always leave us smiling. Our sincere condolences to Barry, to Ashley and her family, and to all the relatives and friends who will surely miss her as much as we will.

Wayne Gooding & Peter Lam



Wayne Gooding - January 14, 2023 at 11:13 AM

WG

Photo taken at another lunch hosted by Irene and Barry at the UofT Faculty Club, this one April 2022. From left: Irene, Thomas Burton, Barry, Wayne Gooding, Peter Lam. wg

Wayne Gooding - January 14, 2023 at 09:46 PM

AH

“ From Kathy and John Simpson:
I remember when we went to Canada to visit Irene and Barry in 1985. We had a great time. Irene was a very interesting and welcoming person and the last time we caught up in Honolulu in 2018 she was great company bright with a great personality. I spoke to her often on the phone and on the day prior to her falling ill. She will be sadly missed not only by her many friends and family, but by Kathy & John Simpson, her sister & brother in law.



Ashley Hood - January 11, 2023 at 11:53 PM

GB

“ *Robin and I knew Irene for 50 years. We shared many happy times including visits to Stratford and Shaw with other friends. Many of the plants in our gardens migrated from my garden to hers and vice versa. Irene was a true friend. She was funny and kind and generous and will be greatly missed.*
Grace and Robin

Grace and Robin Barfoot - January 11, 2023 at 08:44 AM

IS

“ Irene and I joined Milne House Garden Club at the same time, and it didn't take long for Irene to immerse herself in the club, and to not too long after become President. With Irene's not so gently persuasion I followed her into the role. We often laughed at "how did we get ourselves into this"! Of course we loved every moment! . Irene was always present during our preparations for our annual Christmas with Milne House fund raiser. I will miss Irene's sense of humor, visits to her lovely garden and our chats about travel and family across the pond. Rest in Peace.

Ingrid Smith - January 10, 2023 at 11:48 AM

CS

“ Hard to believe we gathered in her garden in summer with like minded bulb society members. She was most gracious sharing her plant directory and knowledge with my daughter. Taken from us still young at heart, we will all miss her wonderful sense of humour and special talents within Milne House Garden Club. Rest in peace.

Claudette Smith - January 10, 2023 at 08:43 AM

CL

“ Bill and I were so very lucky to meet Barry and Irene 40 years ago in Chicago at David Stanley-Porter's opera trip. We have shared music, gardening and laughter ever since. In our sorrow at Irene's passing, the music seems to have been silenced. Irene displayed ebullient pride in Ashley and Evan, and brightened with love when mentioning Oliver. Having met Ashley many times in Toronto, we understood that Irene's joy in Ashley was fully deserved and Ashley is the wonderful legacy of her mother and father. Colleen and Bill Lindley, London Ontario

Colleen and Bill Lindley - January 09, 2023 at 09:51 PM

JH

“ Dear Aunt Irene. I just imagined we'd have more time, that there would be more trips home to see us. You were hoping to come over in the spring. I'll miss our phone calls, your voice, your laugh, your sense of humour. Your emails with family updates, exchanging photos of our grandsons, or even surprising us with a 'do you fancy a week in Cornwall?'. You were so beloved. This is just so sad, you will be missed by all of us ❤️ Julie, Manchester. England



Julie Harris - January 09, 2023 at 04:53 AM

DM

“ I remember as a child, Aunt Irene sending Christmas parcels over to us all in England. We all looked forward with great excitement to them arriving. They were full of amazing childhood treasures. Aunt Irene continued to make us smile when she visited us, bringing her very useful gifts for us from the dollar stores, you can never have enough food bag pegs! Happy, happy memories to have had with Irene, a huge part of our family. Diane, England

Diane McNicoll - January 08, 2023 at 03:05 PM