



## Valerie Rita Douglas Garant

October 22, 2025

In loving memory of Valerie Rita Douglas Garant  
April 11, 1939 - October 22, 2025

With heavy hearts we share with you the passing of our amazing mum, Valerie Rita Douglas Bernadette Brady Cairns Garant - yes that was her full name! After a brief illness in her 87th year Valerie danced up to heaven to be with our dad, Ronald (passed September 9, 2024) Married 64 years - apart for just one - now together again forever...

She was a fun, witty and loving mum to Bruce (Cheryl), and Gayle and proud Nana to her grandchildren Mike (Kirsten), Brian (Nadia), and Emma. She adored them all and would tell everyone how proud she was. Her grandpup Lacey will miss the porch-swing snuggles and morning walks with her.

Born in Glasgow Scotland, Valerie grew up during the war alongside her little brother

Melvin who sadly passed at age 3. At 16, she was dragged kicking and screaming (her words) across the ocean to her new life in Canada and in true Val fashion she remained a proud British citizen for life - her form of protest - strong willed -absolutely!

An unstoppable and spirited woman, Val began dancing as a young girl and

never stopped - from ballet to teaching dance, exercise, fitness, line dancing and more. Her fitness and line dance friends made over the years were cherished. In her younger years, she took a job at Maple Leaf Gardens selling cigarettes just so she could see Bolshoi Ballet from Russia - in a twist of fate, that's where she met our Dad. (She always joked she got him "by default" after he drove her Protestant friend home - the one who wasn't interested in Catholic Ron.)

Their 64 years together were filled with laughter, family, spirited (loud) debates and the chaos of a busy house. We will miss her millionaires shortbread, macaroni cheese casserole, her perfectly folded lily serviettes at family get togethers. We will miss her mischievous smile, her love of red wine, penny slots and 'real' casinos.

Valerie was an adventurer at heart traveling the world visiting more countries than we can count. She loved family road trips especially shopping trips to Erie PA or taking her grandsons to Atlantic City and Memphis!

A service of celebration will be held on Wednesday, November 5, 2025 at 10 a.m. at St Boniface Catholic Church, 21 Markanna Drive, Scarborough. A reception and celebration of her amazing life will follow in the church hall. The venue is elevator accessible.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Scarborough Health Network - Scarborough General.

We take comfort knowing that Mum is now with Dad - likely ballroom dancing, laughing but more likely arguing over the t.v. remote.

# Tribute Wall

HC

“ *What can I add to what my brother Denis has already written?  
(Except that I wasn't in Daytona Beach or Hawaii!)*

*I and my kiddies Anna and Denis foisted ourselves on Ron and Val in summer 2000 (my goodness, 25 years ago!) and they did us proud, taking us to Indian reservations, Niagara Falls, the CN Tower, Toronto Zoo, also introducing us to their many friends, letting us use various swimming pools and spoiling us with ridiculously large, delicious barbecues. In the course of our visit, Denis learned how to swim and Anna learned how to line-dance!*

*Val was like that ... big-hearted, fun-loving, funny, witty ... altogether a wonderful person.*

*Love from us all in Germany.*

*Hugh, Juan, Anna and Denis*

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**Hugh Cairns** - November 07, 2025 at 11:35 AM



“ *Val, and Ron, made our trip to Canada and the US back in '96 unforgettable due to their incredible warmth. I remember Val always laughing and seeing the light side of situations. It was such a blessing that our wedding in Hawaii coincided with their own holiday so they could make our special day even more special. Although we are not able to attend, she will be in our thoughts during the service.*

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**Dan Cairns** - November 03, 2025 at 09:43 PM

PC

“ Our sincere condolences to Bruce, Gayle and their families. Valerie was a longtime friend (since 1967) and will be dearly missed by all. So many memories and laughter was had. We will never forget her.

*Peggy and Tom Canavan*

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**Peggy Canavan** - November 02, 2025 at 05:44 PM

DC

“ What can we say about Val? Whenever we think of our times with her we cannot help but smile. Ever since she and Ron took Bruce and Gayle over to Scotland in the early 70s we always had a great time.

*Fast forward to 19996 when the three of us went over to Toronto for the holiday of a lifetime, driving down to Daytona Beach and all points in between. It was also lovely meeting up with Michael and Brian and Cheryl and Emma. We will never be able to to thank her and Ron for their hospitality and kindness.*

*Val had many loves - her family, dancing, travel, retail therapy and supporting casinos. I wouldn't dare to try to put them in the proper order!*

*Also it was a truly special occasion when she and Ron were able to join us in Hawaii to celebrate Dan and Yuri's wedding in 2015.*

*Unfortunately due to my current health issues we are unable to travel to the funeral but rest assured that we and also Dan and Yuri will very much be thinking of you all on Wednesday.*

*With much love to all the family.*

*Denis and Euna*

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**Denis A Cairns** - November 02, 2025 at 07:29 AM

ND

“ Val as so beautifully described was a joy to know. She had a huge heart & and personality to match that. I personally have known Val sine the City of Scarborough days & then as our Line Dancing teacher for close to fifteen years. She spoiled us for any other line dancing classes we took. Nothing could compare. Val you will be missed but I hope & trust that you in a better place now with Ron by your side. Nylda your Line Dancing Student.

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**Nylda D'Souza** - October 25, 2025 at 09:10 PM