



Too Old to Die Young

*If life is like a candle bright
Then death must be the wind
You can close your window tight
And it still comes blowing in*



*So I will climb the highest hill
And I'll watch the rising sun
And pray that I won't feel the chill
'Til I'm too old to die young*



*Let me watch my children grow
To see what they become
Lord, don't let that cold wind blow
'Til I'm too old to die young*



*I have had some real good friends
I thought would never die
But all I've got that's left of them
Are these teardrops in my eye*

*Let me watch my children grow
To see what they become
Lord, don't let that cold wind blow
'Til I'm too old to die young
Lord, don't let that cold wind blow
'Til I'm too old to die young*



*Song written by:
J. R. Hadley,
R. S. Dooley and K. S. Welch*



APPRECIATION

The family wishes to express their gratitude for your kindness evidenced in thought and deed, and for your attendance at the funeral service.

SCHULER-LEFEBVRE FUNERAL CHAPEL - Humboldt, Saskatchewan
"Dedicated to those we serve."

In Loving Memory Of



Julia Gerwing

Humboldt, Saskatchewan

BORN:
May 2, 1922
Ituna District, Saskatchewan

DIED:
November 6, 2023
Humboldt, Saskatchewan

AGE:
101 Years

Eulogist: Connie Gerwing

FUNERAL MASS:

Monday, November 20, 2023 - 10:30 a.m.
St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church
Lake Lenore, Saskatchewan

Celebrant: Fr. Prosper Abotsi

Crossbearer: Alison Gerwing

Music Ministry:

St. Anthony's Church Choir

Scripture Readers:

Valerie Lefebvre & Julia Laforge

Intentions: Julia Laforge

Giftbearers: Jenna Gerwing & Amy Gerwing

Memorial Table Attendants: Karen Gerwing & Kim Gerwing

Honorary Pallbearers: "All those who shared in Julia's life."

Active Pallbearers:

Philip Laforge - Ryan Gerwing - Danny Brown
Murray Brown - David Nieman - Julia Laforge

INTERMENT:

St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Cemetery
Lake Lenore, Saskatchewan

Memorial Luncheon: St. Anthony's Church Basement

Memorial Donations:

St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Cemetery Fund
or
Humboldt District Hospital Foundation - Home Care Fund

After 101 years, six months and four days Julia (née Kowalyshyn) Gerwing died peacefully after cooking her final lunch, making her bed and going to the hospital. She got her wish to go quickly and with little fuss, but she gave her family time to say goodbye. Julia was born on May 2, 1922 at Lunnville, north of Ituna to her Ukrainian father, Fred (Fedor) and her Polish mother Katherine. In 1941, when she was 19 and her sister Rosie was 18, they drove to Toronto where Julie worked in the shipping department at De Havilland Aircraft during WWII. After a couple of years, she came back to Saskatchewan and worked at the Tuberculosis Sanatorium in Prince Albert and then as a parts person at the International Harvester dealership in Ituna. In 1946, she went to Lake Lenore to visit her sister Mary, who lived next to John and Molly Gerwing. She met their son Hardy (Gerhard), who was farming in Lake Lenore after serving in the army during WWII. After a year of visits and letter writing they married on October 21, 1947. Julia's father owned the first steam tractor in the Ituna area, was musical and a builder and fixer and Julia followed in his path. She played in the family band and also had artistic talent. Her paintings are owned by many and include the backdrop for the St. Anthony's nativity scene. She built furniture and taught upholstery. She was curious about how things worked and unafraid to try something new. She loved a joke, and told many, including the one about being so old she wasn't going to buy any green bananas. She encouraged her children to see the world and travelled herself. Julia went to England, Greece and on many trips to Reno. Watching the Blue Jays was one of her greatest pleasures and she was always up on the curling scene. She was very independent and liked to take care of herself. At 101 she was still cooking, baking, and cleaning. Julia always made sure her family didn't drive when it was stormy and checked what they were making for supper. She leaves behind her daughter **Connie** Gerwing (Cyril Laforge) and family, **Julia** Laforge (Nick Toller) and their children **Cléa** and **Mikko**; and **Philip** Laforge (Brittany Melynk) and their son **Benoît**; daughter **Vicki** Gerwing (Charlie Matt) and their son **Tim** Gerwing; daughter **Jacki** Gerwing (Don Brown) and family, **Danny** Brown (Freja) and their son **Noah**, and **Murray** Brown; son **Jim** (Karen) Gerwing and family, **Alison** Gerwing (Jun Nee), **Tara** Vesey and her children **Cash** and **Henrik**, and **Megan** (Devin) Richmond their children **Knox** and **Vanessa**; son **Ted** (Kim) Gerwing and family, **Amy** Gerwing, **Ryan** Gerwing, and **Jenna** Gerwing; sister Olga (Art) Nieman; daughter Colleen's partner Mary Ann Roettger; and sister-in-law Pauline (Maurice) Merkosky. She was predeceased by her husband Gerhard "Hardy" Gerwing; daughter Colleen Gerwing; siblings: Mary Bellavance, Josephine Kobialko, Anne Bukowsky, Mike, Stanley, Joe and Leo Kowalyshyn, Rose Havelock, and Charlie Kowalyshyn and their spouses; 14 (three in infancy) of her husband's brothers and sisters and their spouses.