



Jane Hesselink (Griffin)

February 28, 1945 - January 9, 2021

Our Mom was such a supportive, caring, social and generous person with a wonderful sense of humour. She was a devoted partner, a mother, a sibling, a grandmother and a good friend to so many.

We wanted to share here some of our fondest memories of our mom:

Adventurer

Mom was an avid adventurer. She accompanied Dad and his outdoor adventure Club known as the 'Rusticators' on many exciting activities and hikes. She quickly become known to the high school students as the 'Rusticator Mom'.

In 1976 as our family went on a yearlong trip to Australia, Mom was right there alongside us, travelling in light planes, jeeps in the outback or dealing with poisonous snakes in the backyard.

A "Do-er"

Mom was one of those people who just got things done. Whether it be working at the office, helping with the family, the house or the cottage, she still managed to find the energy for her friends. She taught us that things should not be left unfinished.... even if it was a 3000-piece puzzle that sat for weeks

on a card table in our living room. She made sure, no matter how long it took, you finish what you start.

Supportive

Mom was such an incredibly supportive person who was always there for us when we needed her. Her love for her family was apparent in all that she did for us. Growing up, Mom would not miss a single supporting event we had, and she could be heard on the sidelines cheering us on. Even as a grandmother, she would drive great distances to watch her grandchildren play hockey or ringette. After a long day at work, Mom would still help us out with school projects - like the time she caught Trevor cutting out pictures from Dad's National Geographic magazines, but then explained how to lay them out like a pro. Mom really was such a supportive parent who encouraged independence while ensuring we were always essentially on the right path.

Sporty

Mom enjoyed a variety of sports such as squash, tennis, biking, pickleball and even football (She wouldn't let us forget that she was on an all girl's football team in high school called the 'Powder Puffs'). Her love for hockey grew as she spent years watching The Leaf's with Dad and Dane (Trevor listened, playing lego on the other side of the couch...). When Mom came home one day to find Dane and his friend's playing mini hockey in the basement, they were sure they were going to be in trouble. Instead, Mom decided to join the boys and stepped in as the goalie. The kids thought she was the coolest mom after that.

Parent

Mom knew how to be firm and persuasive, when necessary and having two boys, seemed to necessitate it often. Like the time Dane and Jane were driving to the cottage, and Dane decided he had enough of Mom's 'Loon sounds' tape. He decided to not only eject it from the cassette player but

'eject' it from the vehicle as he opened his car window and threw it out. Mom insisted that he turn the car around and search for the cassette. They did just that.

Friendship

Mom was truly a social butterfly and made new acquaintances and friendships everywhere she went. She cared for all her friends and always told us about the great times and laughs they shared together. Our mom was the kind of person that could walk into Canadian Tire looking for lightbulbs and walk out having made a new best friend in the sales associate. She made friends everywhere she went, and she always knew what to say to make people feel good about themselves. Mom even managed to combine her love for gardening and socializing by drawing neighbours into conversation as she endlessly hand-weeded the front lawn. She was very proud of the incredible connections and meaningful relationships she made over the years.

Caring

Mom showed a deep love for her friends and family and always acted as a caregiver for those in need. She showed such great compassion and love for our Dad, especially when he became ill. She took care of him year after year and ensured that he was taken care of properly and always with love. Mom volunteered in many associations and enjoyed her time working as a Big Sister, with the Alzheimer's association, gardening at the Peterborough Zoo and more. She was always available to lend a helping hand to anyone in need.

Family

Mom was the glue that held our family together. Her family meant the world to her and she always looked forward to having her boys back home and catching up. We would always laugh as we sat at the dinner table getting

ready to dig into a delicious meal when almost on cue we would hear 'So... here we are!' It was our mom's way of saying 'Finally, we are back together again as a family.'

Growing up, we regularly visited the 'Griffin Clan' at Grandpa and Grandma's cottage on Scugog Lake, or drifted through lazy summers at the Griffin retreat on Cameron Lake. The annual Thanksgiving dinners, and the Boxing Day gatherings where Jane was the mastermind behind the little kid's 'Fishing pond.' We have so many fond memories of the times spent with our extended family. Mom especially cherished her relationships with her siblings Jim, Al, Ron, Jackie, Pat and John.

Mom also enjoyed spending time with Dad's extended family. She particularly enjoyed relating with our female cousins - a pleasant escape from being constantly surrounded by us boys.

Our Mom was a wonderful grandmother who loved her three grandchildren Nora, Trent and Kaza. She always enjoyed spending time with them and letting them know how much they were loved.

A great memory was when Mom took us all on a family trip to Holland in 2008, to visit Dad's birthplace. She understood the importance of bringing us together as a family to gain a better understanding where Dad was born and to experience the Dutch culture with him. She also made it possible for us to meet Dad's childhood best friend on a trip to Brummen. Spending that time with the family in Holland was one of Mom's happiest times.

Mom, we love you more than we can put into words. We are so grateful for our incredible childhood and the adventures we took together. We will miss talking with you, hearing your laugh and sitting down for family dinners and hearing that inevitable, 'So, here we are...' !

Love always,

your boys,

Trevor and Dane

Tribute Wall

KH

“ Dear,Nanny Jane You were the greatest grandma a girl like me could ask for.you were sweet and the most kindest person I ever knew,thank you for being with me and my Dad ,Trevor Hesselink.I will always be grateful.Rest in peace.Love, your grandddaughter,Kaza Hesselink

Kaza Hesselink - December 01, 2021 at 02:09 PM

LT

“ Remembering Jane's spirit of adventure, kindness and sense of humour and fun. A wonderful woman who is missed.

Liz Thompson - February 15, 2021 at 12:35 PM

KA

“ Dear Aunt Jane, we will always miss your beautiful smile and beautiful spirit. Thank you for always making us feel special.Dear Trevor and Dane, I had a couple of long chats with your Mom during the summer and I want you to know that she explicitly told me how lucky she was to have her sons and how proud she was of you both. Love Karyn

Karyn - February 05, 2021 at 04:31 PM

KM

“ Trevor and Dane We both extend our heartfelt sympathies to you both and your families. Your mom was a wonderful person who I had the opportunity to chat with quite a few times in recent years. She was proud of you both and always kept me up to date with what you both were up to. We were both saddened to hear she had passed. You are both in our thoughts and prayers. Kevin and Mandy Mutton

Kevin Mutton - January 31, 2021 at 05:57 PM

WL

“ *In Memory of a Good Neighbor and Friend our Condolences to the Hesselink Family Wayne & Lorraine Parker*

Wayne / Lorraine - January 31, 2021 at 10:01 AM

TS

“ *Dane, Trev and families: Please accept our condolences during this difficult time. Jane was truly a nice person at all times and a great mother.*

The Wright Family, Dave, Christine, Claire, Sophie - January 24, 2021 at 04:34 PM

JG

“ *Jane (My Sister) I will miss you so much ..You were always there for meWe would speak on the phone for hours sometimes..discussing the world ..we spoke at least weekly . Before Covid 19, we would meet for lunch, shopping, and even sometimes the Casino...so many good times! You were always so generous...I will never forget when you started your first job you bought myself and my younger Brother , Ron, a new outfit to start school In.... So many Laughs together...Your time was way too short...and I will miss you terribly..you were my Mentor...Love Always Jackie (We Always think we have time.)*

Jackie Gorelle - January 22, 2021 at 03:06 PM

DF

“ We consider ourselves lucky to have had such a wonderfully kind, warm and generous person as Jane in our lives for so many years. She was always understanding, upbeat, and self deprecatingly funny at times. She found the humor in everyday events and could really be someone to look to if you needed someone to lend an ear or you needed some cheering up. Jane took pride in a clean and organized, home-I will always remember the house being a welcoming place of warmth and comfort with Herm\u2019s stereo tuned to classical 103.1 on low in the background, a fire in the winter going in the wood stove, and a cup of tea, coffee or hot chocolate being offered by our host; Jane. Jane was so proud of her boys and it came through whenever she spoke of them. Letting you know how they were doing- the events in their lives, their struggles and their successes. Raising two boys, especially during the preteen and teen years, always kept Jane on her feet. I have many memories of her in motion-cooking, baking, laundry, vacuuming, picking up scattered clothes, Lego (my oh my, the amount of Lego!), toys, magazines etc. And putting them back in their place!-a typical Saturday at the Hesselink\u2019s! Jane also had a fondness for staying up and watching old Hollywood movies on TV. We chatted during my last visit about how she would often fall asleep before the end of the movie and sometimes if she hadn\u2019t seen it before, not know how it ended! Then the next time it came on TV saying to herself \u201cI\u2019m going to see the end of it!\u201d...and falling asleep yet again! Trev & Dane, You will probably be reminded more now than ever of the influence your mother had on you through the little things in life that remind you of her. Phrases and clich\u00e9s you say, postures and mannerisms you may see in your children or others, the smell of something cooking or perfume someone is wearing. Take comfort in these moments and always feel she is close by. Herm & Jane were incredibly welcoming, gracious and supportive of our family during a difficult time in our lives and for that we will always remember and be grateful. With love and fond memories, Dave and the Harnden Family.

Dave and the Harnden Family - January 22, 2021 at 01:59 PM

TF

“ *Our warmest condolences,*

The Harnden Family - January 22, 2021 at 01:48 PM

JG

“ *To my twin sister Jane \u2764\ufe0f Jane and I stayed close to each other for seventy- five years.....in our later years after her husband (Herm) passed away , I moved from Port Perry to Lakefield to be closer to Jane, fifteen minutes from my home to hers . We would phone each other every couple of days to see how each other where doing. I miss Jane so much and always will.....Love always her twin brother brother Jim
\ud83d\udc95\ud83d\udc95\ud83d\udc95*

Jim Griffin - January 21, 2021 at 09:48 PM

JM

“ *With heartfelt condolences. Jane will be missed but not forgotten.*

Judy Moore - January 20, 2021 at 08:30 PM

SB

“ *Aunt Jane always made me feel extra special and I always loved bonding with her over girly things. And we also bonded over both having a twin brother - not very common! Aunt Jane was beautiful, and full of energy and love. She was so strong in her love and support of Uncle Herman during his illness. I remember talking to her about this several times and her saying it was easy, because she loved him so much. I will miss you Aunt Jane.*

Suzanne Barwell - January 20, 2021 at 07:57 PM

HS

“ With love from Lucille Cunneyworth, Helen Watt and Barbara Kyselka

Heartfelt Sympathies - January 20, 2021 at 12:59 PM

PJ

“ I am very sorry about your mom , she was a lovely woman. Patsy Johnson

Patsy Johnson - January 19, 2021 at 08:16 PM

MF

“ I truly enjoyed reading all about Jane and the incredible person she was . Jane was such a fun and outgoing person, I remember meeting her for the first time and speaking to her was like knowing her always . Iu2019m so sorry for your loss and she will always be so proud of her family \ud83d\udc95\u2764\ufe0fMarlene Johnson Masse and Family

Marlene Johnson and Family - January 19, 2021 at 08:07 PM

TF

“ Please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your lossour thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time.

The Chapman Family - January 19, 2021 at 06:20 PM