



Gillis, Annie Jane Gillisdale

Annie Jane Gillis, 91, passed away peacefully on Friday, Sept. 28, 2018, in the Inverary Manor, Inverness, NS. Born in Piper's Glen, Inverness Co., she was the daughter of the late Hugh and Flora (MacDonnell) MacKenzie and was the last surviving member of her immediate family. On February 15, 1949, Annie Jane married Joseph Angus Gillis and together they began to bring up a family of 13 children and they operated a family store in Gillisdale until Joe Angus's death in 1967. With a young family to bring up it was then up to the newly widowed Annie Jane to take over the family business and she did this until 1987 when she passed it on to her son Hector. He continued to operate the business until 1990 when the store closed. She greatly appreciated the assistance her brother Kennie provided when he moved in with her, to help her bring up her family after Joe Angus died. She was able to return the assistance when Kennie needed it in his later years.

Annie Jane is survived by twelve of her thirteen children: Martha, Ann (Hugh MacDougall), Ena (Dan Cousins), Esther (Alan Kirby), Barbara (Sid Taylor), Jesslyn (Lawrence MacLellan), Margaret (Kevin MacIsaac), Hector, Donna, Diane (Kevin MacKinnon), Robert (Liann), Albert, and sisters-in-law Dorothy MacKenzie and Theresa MacKenzie.

She was also predeceased by her parents, one sister and eleven brothers, her daughter Theresa, sons-in-law Bob McLellan and Ron MacLellan, grandson Jeffrey MacKinnon and great granddaughter Ella Rose Rankin.

She was an active member of St. Joseph's Parish and S.W. Margaree Senior's Club for many years. She enjoyed playing cards with friends and neighbours. Although a competitive player, she always had time to laugh and joke. Even with a houseful of children, she welcomed family and friends into her home. There was always enough food for everyone and room for one more in a bed.

She became a hockey mom in her late 40's after she obtained her driver's license. She was an avid fan of the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Toronto Blue Jays. Hector always kept her informed about the teams' stats.

All of her 39 grandchildren and 38 (and counting) great grandchildren gave her great joy. Each new born child added a sparkle to her eyes.

She enjoyed spending time with her friends especially Margaret Anne, Kay Pat, Margaret Mullaney and Annie Sarah. Memories of these good times brought her great comfort up to her passing. Donalda, Mary Vincent and Mom worked together as a team for many years at parish events and cleaning the Glebe House. Although it was work, they shared many laughs and a great bond developed among them.

She spent the last two years at the Inverary Manor in Inverness where she received excellent care and the staff quickly discovered her love for tea and cookies.

Visitation will be in the South West Margaree Parish Hall on Tuesday, October 2nd from 2-4 and 7-9. Funeral mass will be held on Wednesday, October 3rd at 11 am in St. Joseph's Church, S.W. Margaree with Father MacDonald Ibeh officiating with burial to follow at MacDougall's Cemetery, S.W. Margaree. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the St. Joseph's Parish Cemetery fund or Inverary Manor, Inverness.

Online condolences: www.sunsetfuneralco-op.com