

IN LOVING MEMORY
MARY JESSIE MAC DONALD



Mary Jessie (Gillis) MacDonal passed peacefully from this world on October 11, 2022 in her own home in Mabou, at the age of 106.

The daughter of John Angus and Mary Ann (MacLellan) Gillis of Gillisdale, Margaree, she left the Braigh in 1938 to work at the Mabou Asylum. In 1940 she married Johnny MacDonal and moved to Rankinville, Mabou, where she lived until the day of her death. They had a family of 12 children.

Jessie was devout Catholic and a long-time member of St. Mary's Parish where she served as a volunteer with the CWL for many decades. She said many a rosary in her life, and regularly gathered on zoom to say the rosary with family and friends during the past few years. Her faith was a great comfort to her through difficult times.

She loved to visit relatives and friends in Margaree, na cruic 's na glinn bu bhoidhche leatha, the place with the most beautiful hills and glens in her opinion!

Jessie was a Scottish Gaelic speaker. She loved to hear a Gaelic song and in later years hosted many, many visits from Gaelic learners.

Jessie lived a life of service to others. She nurtured and cared for her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She made visitors feel welcome and kept a calm, hospitable home.

Jessie greatly enjoyed a game of cards, especially cribbage or auction, and had many laughs with friends and family over a good hand. She always kept the score until very recently.

She was a great knitter and many people received a gift of warm wool socks or mittens from her, usually in beautiful striped patterns.

We trust that Jessie has gone to join her daughter Matilda, her sons Joseph, Francis and the infant Alexander Jerome, her husband Johnny, her parents John Angus and Mary Ann, and her siblings John, Charlie, Mary, Agnes, Alexander, Annie and Margaret, her sons-in-law Albert Connors and Jake Hiltz, and many other friends and relations.

She leaves behind her children; Mary Pat, Willie (Annette), Angus A., Jerome (Nellie), Barbara (Scott), Bernie, Rita and Daniel; her daughters-law, Margie and Debbie; her grandchildren, Vincent, Brian, Stanley, Darren, Valerie, Adriaan, Wilhelmina, David, Andrea, Kevin, John, Mary, Joyce, Karen, Joanne, Emily and Devin; 11 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren, as well as many nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends. We will miss her gentle ways and her quietly sharp sense of humour, as well as the many ways she has touched our lives.

The family would like to thank Mary Margaret and Dr. Egar, as well as the Palliative Care and Home Care workers, for their support.

Visitation will be in St. Mary's Parish Church, Mabou on Sunday, October 16th from 2 to 7 pm.

Funeral service will be held at St. Mary's in Mabou on Monday, October 17th at 11 am. Funeral Service will be Live-streamed on the Mabou Community

Donations may be made to the St. Mary's Building Fund or to Taigh Sgoile na Drochaide (Mabou Gaelic School). Link to donation online for the Mabou Gaelic

School: <https://cfns-fcne.ca/taighsgoilenadrochaidefund/>

Fois shìorraidh dha h-anam.