



## Miss Joan Olive Nelson

January 26, 1940 - March 20, 2026

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the sudden passing of Joan Olive Nelson at Nanton, Alberta on March 20, 2026 at the age of 86 years. Joan was the youngest daughter of R. Palmer Nelson and Alma Nelson of Queenstown and she grew up there with her 3 brothers, Chris, Ken and David and 3 sisters, Julia, Sheila and June. She attended school in Queenstown and later trained to become a Nursing Aide, graduating in 1960. She then began to do what she did best, which was caring for others. She worked as a nanny for five children in Toronto and held positions at various hospitals across Canada, such as Montreal Children's Hospital, Foothills Hospital Calgary, Alberta Children's Hospital Calgary, Royal Alexandra Hospital Edmonton, and the Rosecrest Home Edmonton. Joan's special gift was caring for children. At Rosecrest Home she cared for special needs children and it was here she met a tiny little Down Syndrome girl with whom she fell in love!

She became a Foster Mom to Monique Browne in 1980 and Joan gave her an amazing life and unlimited love and care until Monique passed in 2003 at the age of 28. Monique was Joan's pride and joy and surpassed her life expectancy by several years, which is a testament to the love and care Joan provided. Joan and Monique resided in Edmonton as well as High River and spent a lot of time visiting at the Nelson family farm near Queenstown where special memories were made. After Monique passed Joan moved to Strathmore where she lived for several years before moving to the Silver

Willow Lodge in Nanton last spring.

Joan was a very devoted aunt who kept in touch with her many nieces and nephews, always remembering their birthdays and special occasions with cards and gifts. She had an incredible memory and was gifted at remembering names, places and dates. She loved books and was a volunteer in the library at the Wheatland Lodge in Strathmore while she was a resident there. She also enjoyed puzzles, crosswords and word search - she was constantly testing her knowledge! She also loved watching any medical show she could find on TV as well as her favorite soap operas. Joan was quiet, kind-hearted, independent, and at times somewhat stubborn and she loved and appreciated visits from her large extended family.

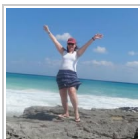
Joan is survived by her oldest brother Chris Nelson of Lethbridge and her sisters-in-law Julie Nelson of High River and Charlotte Nelson of Vulcan as well as numerous nieces and nephews and many great and great-great nieces and nephews. She was loved by many and will always have a special place in our hearts. We take comfort in knowing she is once again with her beloved Monique as well as her parents and brothers and sisters.

A special thank you is extended to the staff at the Silver Willow Lodge for the wonderful care Joan received during the last year of her life.

At Joan's request, there will be no funeral service. If desired, memorial donations may be made in Joan's memory to the Foothills AIMS Society, 126-9 Ave. S.E., High River, AB T1V 1 E7.

Caring for the family is Lyle Reeves Funerals of High River (Craig Snodgrass) 403.652.4242.

# Tribute Wall



“ Pam Ganske lit a candle in memory of Miss Joan Olive Nelson



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**Pam Ganske** - April 14 at 03:37 PM

CF

“ The Fitzpatrick family sends our sincere condolences to the entire Nelson family. Joan was a very gentle and loving person and always allowed us cousins to call her aunty Joan as well. I Will fondly remember the time spent with her at aunt Alma's and a special trip to Edmonton along with twyla to stay with her. I was looking forward to visiting more often now that she had moved to Nanton. May she rest in peace.

*Charlotte Fisher on behalf of the Fitzpatrick family.*

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**Charlotte Fisher** - March 27 at 09:17 AM

JU

“ Sorry to hear of Joan's passing! 🕯️ . Condolences to the Nelson Family. I recall her kindness and soft spoken words! RIPJoan.☐

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**Judy** - March 26 at 09:16 PM

BM

“ *Brenda Mueller lit a candle in memory of Miss Joan Olive Nelson*



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**Brenda Mueller** - March 26 at 03:18 PM

JW

“ *Our sincere condolences to all of Joan's family. She was always admired by me (Joan and I shared a name!!) since I was a little kid and neighbour to the Nelsons. When she lived in Edmonton I met Joan at a grocery store and we often had coffee together at our home. Then years later we again met at Lambert Village in Strathmore where she was a much loved neighbour of my Mom's, always there to help her and when Mom went to the nursing home, visited her often. I was also so happy to reconnect again with Joan and we kept contact occasionally until she moved away to Nanton. She was a kind and loving friend and I know she loved her family dearly and will be sadly missed. ❤️ Hugs from Joan and Lyle Winch*

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**Joan Winch** - March 26 at 12:44 PM

LC

“ *Lynda Cowling lit a candle in memory of Miss Joan Olive Nelson*



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**lynda Cowling** - March 24 at 11:29 PM

LR

*Deepest sympathy to all the Nelson family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you 🙏*

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**Leighton Rushfeldt** - March 31 at 12:42 PM