

BABIČ, STANICA "STELLA" (nee PUŠENJAK) October 25, 1923 - June 19, 2023

Stanica was born on October 25, 1923, in Veržej, Slovenia. In her indomitable spirit and with the strength of her loving mother and siblings, she endured a difficult childhood. She loved school and the solace of the Salesian (Don Bosco) Community Centre nearby. Then came wartime through her teens and young adulthood. Displaced by WWII, in January 1948 she sailed on the first military ship of UNHCR declared women refugees out of Bremerhaven, Germany. They were bound for the blessings and promise of Canada. She and Lojze Babič met and married in Windsor, Ontario. They later joined the Slovenian community in Toronto, where they raised and bestowed on their children faith and a strong sense of community. When she turned 80, Stanica voluntarily gave up her car and her homeowner responsibilities, spending her final years at Dom Lipa. Her family is sincerely grateful to all the staff who cared for her and her neighbours there with loving kindness and respect. Stanica passed on June 19, 2023, to join family and friends where there is harmony, ready laughter, dishes are lovingly (perfectly) prepared, and where nature awaits for her to dally. She is predeceased by her husband, Lojze; her daughter, Lojzka; and sisters, Rozika, Tililka, Micka and Anica. She is lovingly remembered by her brother, Mirko (Jelka); and family, her children, Mary and Theresa; sons-in-law, Mike and Leo; grandchildren, Mateja (Adam), Aloysius and Franz; friends and extended family around the world. Her legacy is a family and many friends who will forever appreciate her skill in the kitchen, and learned from her to love unconditionally, care for others, work with quiet integrity and offer true, unreserved service. In place of flowers, Stanica asked that we remember those in need. Please consider donations of time or resources to organizations that work with the poor, the marginalized, or refugees. Friends will be received at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal (739 Brown's Line, Etobicoke) on Thursday, June 22, 2023, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. and on Friday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Mass will begin on Friday at 10:30 a.m. A reception will be held after mass in the church hall prior to the burial at Assumption Catholic Cemetery (6933 Tomken Road, Mississauga).