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Melanie Makortoff

Melanie was born March 23rd, 1966 to a very young mother who was compelled to give her up for adoption as she had no means to support her. It was a blessing to Joseph and Laura Makortoff who were able to take her to their home when she was just 11 days old.

They had already adopted a son Raymond 20 months earlier so this now completed their family. The adoptions took place in Vancouver BC and then when Melanie was only 5 weeks old Joe and Laura decided to move to Grand Forks. Joe and Laura felt that instead of raising the children in the city, they would give them the opportunity to grow up with more freedom and space offered in a rural setting. They came to reside on the small farm that Laura had jointly inherited with her brother Sergei.

As the children grew they each were gifted with their own ponies and this is where Melanie learned to love animals and being in the outdoors. She was a very happy child and she especially gravitated to her father, following him everywhere on the farm. When Joe became terminally ill and passed away in 1980 she was devastated, which was the starting point of difficult times for Melanie. Later as an adult she and her mother became very close. Melanie had

a very good sense of humour and they shared a lot of laughter together. The last 3 months she resided with her mother in Castlegar and even while dealing with extremely painful health conditions, managed to find humour in these trying times.

She was a multi talented person and could repair almost anything be it mechanical or electrical. Melanie was also very artistic and prior to her recent illness she specialized in tattoo work completing many original designs.

Melanie passed away suddenly on January 2 2016. She leaves behind her elderly mother Laura Makortoff, her aunt Nellie Relkoff, six Makortoff cousins and four Relkoff cousins. There are numerous other family relatives and friends including her beloved friend and companion Heather Coupland. Also her pride and joy pet poodle, Aries, who is now lost without her. Melanie was predeceased by father Joseph in 1980, brother Raymond in 1997, uncle Sergei in 1995, as well as both Makortoff and Relkoff grandparents of whom she only got to meet and get to know grandmother Molly Makortoff.

May she rest in peace in God's heavenly kingdom and free from all bodily pain.

Arrangements were in care of Castlegar Funer-

In Memoriam
Vechnaya Pamyat

Preserving the memory of our deceased family members and friends

Submitted by: mother Laura Makortoff