

*You can shed tears that she is gone
or you can smile because she has lived*

*You can close your eyes and pray that she'll come back
Or you can open your eyes and see all she's left*

*Your heart can be empty because you can't see her
or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.*

*You can remember her and only that she's gone
or you can cherish her memory and let it live on*

*You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your
back or you can do what she'd want:*

*Smile,
Open your eyes,
Love
and go on.*

In Loving Memory



Irene Rose Blain

21st April 1932 - 4th July 2014



Irene loved life and everyone one in it.

My mum was a great hostess and loved to give and go to parties and dances with the most friendly and inclusive manner. As far as mum was concerned there was always room for one more.

My mum made Easter and Christmas magical times of the year. One Easter mum had five different coloured balls of wool criss-crossed around the yard over fences, alongside a very spiky holly tree and back to where we nearly started, to retrieve our Easter surprise...a huge tulle covered Easter egg; pink for me, blue for Jen and green for Lyn. I don't remember what Greg and Andrew received, probably because it didn't last long. This must have taken mum half the night, which would explain why mum was a little tired that day. Mum loved every minute of it.

Christmas...for days before we had the job of decorating with paper chains and streamers, a real pine tree and of course cotton ball snowflakes. This was replaced over time with the invention of aluminium—one very shiny tree! I don't remember what my mum told us, but I know we never got out of bed on Christmas morning without several looks under the bed. This of course was sheer genius to keep 5 children in bed on Christmas morning until after dawn! Our home was full of delicious smells coming from the kitchen and family everywhere. It is those memories that I treasure the most.

My mum also had a grown up life. Mum excelled in her career being a valued employee working for Walton's Insurance and receiving many awards. It was often said that my mum could sell ice to Eskimos, no one doubted that.

My mum had a life time friendship with her Norma and their love for each other has stood the test of time. My mum also has long lasting great friendships with the girls from Lawn Bowls. I like to refer to this time in mums' life as her teenage years revisited. These merry young ladies shared with mum much joy and laughter over the years with their mutual love of Lawn bowls and their sense of fun.

My mum became the President of Newbold bowling club and brought with her positive energy and good management skills. My mum was also a very accomplished bowler winning many championships, but due to severe and crippling arthritis mums time on the green was sadly cut short. Mum's friendships with the girls continued however and they would come for many parties over the years. including only a short time ago at the Toronto Nursing Home where mum lived, to celebrate their birthdays.

Mum disliked the limitations her body placed upon her, but her sheer determination and strength of character never dampened her enthusiasm for life and her ability to make a valued contribution. Many of the staff and volunteers came to wish mum a safe journey and are going to miss the life that only mum could bring.

Irene Rose Blain was the beloved mother of
 Jennifer, Robyn, Lynnette, Gregory and Andrew.
 Much loved Grandmother to Megan, Ross, Kristian, Bree and Charles
 GREAT Grandmother to Torren, Ethan, Ashton, Dominic, Chloe, Jordan
 Rheef, Indy, Blair, Miila and Kage

You will always be in our hearts and dearly missed