



Viola B. Petersen

July 10, 1925 - September 21, 2018

Viola Bishop Martin Petersen, age 93, died peacefully in her sleep at her residence in Lawrenceville, GA on September 21st, 2018 following a long illness. Viola, known to many as Vi, was born in Caribou, Maine on July 10th, 1925. She was the eldest of seven children born to Eddie Bishop and Agnes Saucier Bishop.

She is survived by her children; Betty (Martin) Colegrove and husband Jerry, Stephanie Petersen and Pamela (Petersen) Blatchford and husband Dean all of Georgia and Richard Petersen of Caribou, Maine. Grandchildren include Ryan Colegrove and wife Dawn, Kyle Colegrove and wife Candace, Karyn Colegrove, and Bryce Bessette all of Georgia and three Great-Granddaughters Ciara, Laila, and Alyssa Colegrove of Georgia. Additional surviving family members include her sisters; Leona Ray and husband Don of Florida, Caroline Pisciotta and husband Tony of Georgia and Joan McCaffree of Washington and several nieces and nephews.

Viola attended Caribou schools and married Patrick Martin in 1945. Together they worked at the Victory Restaurant on Main Street in Caribou. They had two children Betty and Donnie. Patrick died in 1954 after their son, Donnie, who died following a short illness at two years old.

She was married to Richard Petersen, an Air Force Lieutenant while he was stationed at Loring Air Force Base in 1956 and spent the next 12 years as an Air Force wife and mother until their divorce in 1969. Their three children include Stephanie, Richard and Pamela.

As a single, divorced mother in the sixties, Viola raised her children the best way she could, often working three jobs. She went back to school and trained to be as a Social Worker for the State of Maine and continued this career until her retirement. Her children will remember the hard times and good times always with lots of love and laughter. She was a role model who taught them to keep going and to never give up, no matter what obstacles are placed in your way. Above else, she always told them to remember, "You belong to a family who loves and supports you no matter what"!

Viola was a life-long member of the American Legion's Ladies Auxiliary, and VFW. She held many official titles at the local level including 1st Vice, 2nd Vice and President. She was honored to serve as VP at the 7th District at the American Legion's Annual State

Convention. She was a member of Holy Rosary Catholic Church and the Ladies of St. Anne.

One of her more exciting adventures was when she beat out hundreds to be an extra in the Jim Carrey film, Me Myself and Irene. Although most of her scenes were cut, it remained an experience she valued for the rest of her life. Viola's passions and hobbies included socializing with friends, travelling, dancing, playing cards, and playing BINGO. But her greatest joy came from entertaining and spending time with family and friends. Viola really experienced a full life and loved to share memories from her childhood and hometown with the many friends she collected throughout her lifetime. Many a summer night was spent sitting outside in rocking chairs reminiscing about the "Good Ole days in Caribou".

She is predeceased by her two husbands, son Donnie, siblings Eddie, Richard and Connie Bishop, brother-in-law Phillip McCaffree and Ronald Morin and nephew Michael McCaffree and sister-in-law, Joan Bishop.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in memory of Viola on Monday, October 1st, at 2:00 p.m., St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Lawrenceville, Georgia with The Reverend Mark Thomas presiding followed by a reception with family and friends.

Interment will be held in July 2019 in the Old Holy Rosary Cemetery, Caribou, Maine.

Comments



“ Pam, Stephanie, Bryce, and Family - I'm so sorry to hear about your mom. VI was a wonderful woman that lived life to the fullest and treasured her family above all else. Take comfort and find peace in your many memories. Sherry McCabe, Jericho, Vermont

Sherry McCabe - September 28, 2018 at 09:13 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Viola Gould Petersen.



September 27, 2018 at 08:43 PM