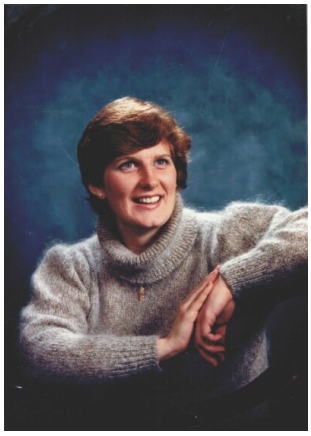

REMEMBERING

Debra Ann Rempel (Debbie)

February 24, 1957 - November 13, 2025

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Debbie Ann Rempel, who died peacefully at the age of 68 on November 13, 2025 after a brief battle with cancer, with her sister Lisa by her side.

Born in Vancouver to Helen and Fred Rempel, Debbie spent her early years in Burnaby before her family moved to Abbotsford in the spring of 1970, where they began a raspberry farm. Those formative summers filled with berry-picking, horseback rides, and caring for farm animals, instilled in her a lifelong love for all creatures.

Pursuing that passion, Debbie earned a diploma in Veterinary Technology from Fairview College in Alberta’s Peace Country in 1980. She began her professional journey in Edmonton as a veterinary technician, later traveling to Europe where she worked as an Au pair. Upon returning to Abbotsford, she served at Clearbrook Animal Hospital before transitioning to Mountain View Farms in Langley. There, she played a role in the recovery programs for the Vancouver Island marmot and the Oregon spotted frog, contributing her expertise to the preservation of these endangered species.

Beyond her dedication to animal welfare, Debbie was a gifted painter and a talented florist. In 2017 she completed a florist diploma, and she delighted friends and family by creating beautiful floral arrangements for countless special occasions.

Wherever Debbie went, her ability to truly listen fostered deep connections and created lifelong, cherished friendships. She had a rare gift for making everyone feel heard and valued. She was an amazing sister, aunt, and a trusted friend to countless people. She will be missed by many.

Debbie is predeceased by her parents Fred and Helen Rempel, she is survived by her sister Lisa Urness (Leslie), her nieces and nephew Abra Garratt (Jason), Sarah Urness (Grant), Lindsay Storie (Merrick), and Todd Urness (Jamie) as well as many cherished friends, cousins and numerous grand-nieces and grand-nephews.

A celebration of Debbie’s life will be held at Emmanuel Mennonite Church on Saturday, December 6, at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that donations be made to the Vancouver Island Marmot Recovery Foundation, honoring the cause so dear to Debbie’s heart.