In Loving Memory



Katie Epp

You, Lord, will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all those whose thoughts are fixed on you.

Isaiah 26:3-4

Katie was born in La Riviere, Manitoba. She was the oldest child of John and Anna Konrad. From an early age, Katie was a gifted pianist. At 12 years old, she was accompanying congregational singing and the church choir directed by her father.

In 1947, she enrolled at MBCI in Winnipeg to finish high school. After completing requirements for the AMM piano teacher's diploma, Katie began a career teaching piano and music theory in Winnipeg, Winkler and Morden, later joining the music faculty at the former Mennonite Brethren Bible College where, unbeknown to her at the time, her students included her future husband John Epp. Love sparked two years later on a Ferris wheel date in Toronto.

John and Katie were married in 1954. Four children followed, along with moves to Coldwater and Kitchener, ON, Abbotsford, BC, and Portage la Prairie and Winnipeg, MB. John worked as a pastor and educator and Katie taught piano and enjoyed many accompanying opportunities.

Katie's musicianship, her warm and loving nature, infectious smile, and hospitable spirit beautifully complemented her husband's role as a pastor. Whether it was hosting students, singing and playing piano on CFOR radio (1954-1957), starting a Homemakers Fellowship in Abbotsford (1961), chairing Pioneer Girls and initiating a Cradle Roll department at River East M.B. Church (1970s), chairing the Manitoba M.B. Women's Conference (1984-1986), chairing the Board of Stewards at Crossroads M.B. Church (1997-1999), advising John on worship music, visiting church members or hosting them for meals, Katie was a beloved participant in all the churches where she and John ministered.

Above all, she was a caring wife and mother. Katie will be lovingly remembered by John, her husband of 66 years; children Wendi Hiebert (Murray), Christine Longhurst (John), Loreen Epp, and daughter-in-law Connie Epp (Henry Hubert); grandchildren Jeremy Epp, Karly Epp (Karl Kohut), Becky Longhurst (Carl Trudel), and Dylan Longhurst; siblings Henry Konrad (Evelyn), John Konrad (Irmie, deceased), Esther Isaac (Ernie, deceased), Martha Janzen (Harry) and Wanda Becker (Jeral), and sister-in-law Ann Schaefer (Wilf), and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her son Ken Epp in 2014.

Katie passed away peacefully on December 14, 2020 under the compassionate care of staff at Donwood Manor Personal Care Home. She was 91 years old.

