



Frances Mary Beis

May 12, 1937 - July 6, 2023

It is with deep sadness that we relay the news of the passing of our mother, Frances “Fran” Mary Beis, age 86 at her home of 13 years, Northwood, Ivany Campus, in Bedford, NS.

Born in Green Bay, Wisconsin, to William and Agnes (Amelse) Clabots. Frances grew up on a farm in Humoldt, WI. She was salutarian of Luxemburg High School in 1955. She completed her Certificate at the School of Medical Technology at St. Mary’s Hospital in Madison, WI in 1957 and graduated Magna Cum Laude from St. Norbert’s College in De Pere with a Bachelor of Science in 1959. She met a close group of friends who kept in touch over the years (Stephanie, Donna, Mary and Joyce). Mom worked as a Medical Technologist in Green Bay where she met our father, Richard Hardy Beis, on a blind date. They married in 1961 and moved to a suburb of Chicago for a few years before emigrating to Nova Scotia in 1965. Falling in love with the seaside, they became Canadian citizens in 1972. She worked in clinical and research labs, taught clinical lab techniques and was a technical job analyst at Dalhousie University. At the university she was also involved in some of the earliest attempts at reconciling the inequity in women’s pay as compared with men doing the same work.

A passionate artist having painted and sketched for many years, in 1974 she enrolled in a BFA program in Art and Design with a concentration in Jewelry at

the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. Her main media was silver and enamels, but she was constantly innovating and always interested in exploring new materials and techniques. She participated in several artist societies, exhibitions, galleries and had awards and commissions. In her retirement years while travelling, she went back to painting focusing on watercolors and acrylics. Mom was part of Artscapes artist collective for many years and an active participant in her “Brunch Bunch”, another group of wonderful women artists and crafters.

As a parent, mom was loving and supportive and encouraged us both to follow our own path.

She had a wonderful sense of humour and enjoyed music, art, theatre and nature. Her artistry, coupled with her genuine nature and ability to relate to the younger generation, earned her the “coolest mom” designation among the friend group of her children.

She had a sense of adventure whether on short trips around the Maritimes, to a year sabbatical crisscrossing North America or further afield to China, the Gambia, Mexico, Cuba and Europe. She loved food from many countries and enjoyed a glass or two of wine on many social occasions.

Frances is predeceased by her husband Richard “Dick” Beis, brothers James “Jim” Clabots, Edward “Ed” Clabots, sisters-in-law Sue Klemas, Margaret “Tanny” Kagerer, Buena Beis and brothers-in-law John and George Beis.

She is survived by her children, Jeffrey Beis (Susan Leech), North Vancouver, BC and Jill Beis (Graham Collins), Halifax, NS and grandchildren, Billie, Sam and Cameron. Brothers Gerald “Gerry” Clabots, Green Bay, WI (Della), Joseph “Joe” Clabots, Sturgeon Bay, WI, sister-in-law, Gloria Clabots, Green Bay, WI, many nieces and nephews and her close friend, Shirley Dean, Halifax, NS.

A sincere thank you for the kindness, caring, and professionalism of the staff of Fisherman's Landing, Ivany Place for being a part of mom's journey in life. We could not have asked for anything better.

A celebration of life to be announced to direct friends and family for a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in mom's name to Northwood Foundation: <https://northwood.care/northwood-foundation>

Tribute Wall



“ *Frances and Dick were among my best friends, and I have known them for many years. I was my privilege to visit Frances at Ivany House shortly before her passing. I was happy to see her comfortable and happy living there, and still able to pursue her art and other interests. Jill and Jeff were fortunate to have had such an excellent family life, and I wish them happiness in the future. Ron Cosp*

Ronald Cosp - August 03, 2023 at 12:41 PM



“ *Jill. It's hard to lose a parent, but there is something special about a Mom. Know, she's in your heart forever, and everyday another wonderful memory will remind you of her love. Colleen & Jim*

Colleen McGill - August 02, 2023 at 05:53 AM



“ *That post was from Gerard Walsh of Bedford.*

Moya Walsh - July 30, 2023 at 06:37 PM



“ *I am an old friend of Frances's husband Dick Beis. Sending condolences to all of Frances and Dick's family.*

Moya Walsh - July 30, 2023 at 06:35 PM

JH

“ To Jeff and Jill.....I read about your Mom's passing in todays paper and just wanted to send along my condolences. She was always such a supportive parent when we met to discuss your latest academic successes. Such an accomplished and adventurous woman. You were so lucky to have her as your mom. She certainly had a life well lived and well loved. Janet Hopewell

janet hopewell - July 29, 2023 at 04:43 PM